

January 19'43

Dearest Mother and Betty Jean,

A letter from mother with pictures of Betty, junior and others came to day. The pictures are exceptional good I suppose I think so because I was and am surprised how Betty has grown. She is filling out also. I am glad she is for I was thinking that she would be tall and slim. She is nice looking, tell her I said so. Junior is a young man too. Betty Jean has a cute face but that figure is nothing to look at.

A letter from Barbara came yesterday letter Jan. 2. She received the letter I wrote telling about the article in the newsweek. You know the one Bah sent you. Well, she finds the magazine and article but she didn't read the paragraph that I wanted her to read. She wrote you a letter concerning the subject. Don't let her mislead you for I have never been there and I am still where Bah told you. I suppose I will stay here for several more months.

I also got letter from Mrs. Emerson dated Jan. 2. She didn't have much to say. Just, that she wanted to start the year by writing two boys that she loves. She can hardly wait until we get back there so she can show us how much she does love us. I think or I should know that we have letter from her still in the mail writer on or before Dec. 15. Why? Because she wrote Ray on that date and told him about selling our car for \$300. If sh did you will get the \$300 for our bank account.

Extra - Bob read the letter Ray got. Mrs. Emerson mrs. addressed it. It was suppose to be for Bob and because he could tell by the contents. Of course Bob didn't say anything about it.

To-morrow is wash day. I hope to do a better job than I've done hither too. I think I depend too much on what Soiling does for the clothes.

Good night my darlings, I will be with you again soon. Give my regards to all.

Love and kisses your boys
Bob & Brock

Back to the pictures - Betty Jean looks like Ada. Now send me one that looks like Betty Jean. Don't get me wrong - those are good pictures but the ones you are not like the other ones you sent.

Two lessons of my course were returned to me. They were the first and fourth. I made no hundred on each. They sent me four more lessons. I have completed three of them. I will finish the fourth soon. I can work this one in two or three hours when I get ready. I ask for the next four lessons. I hope I get them soon. If the school would keep me busy I could finish the course in short order. I would like to finish the course before I get back to the states. For when I get there I want have time to study a correspondence course.

Ray came in with canned chicken, bread, and fruit cocktail. I think all of us ate too much. It was good any way. This should be done more often.

I got a Xmas card from Mr. Lathem this morning

Two money orders
enclosed 9⁰⁰ + 9³⁰

You look
Grock

January 1943

Dearest Mother and Bettye Jean,

A letter from mother with pictures of Betty, Junior and others came today. The pictures are exceptional good. I suppose I think so because I was and am surprised how Betty has grown. She is filling out also. I am glad she is for I was thinking that she would be tall and slim. She is nice looking, tell her I said so. Junior is a young man too. Bettye Jean has a cute face but that figure is nothing to look at.

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Tomorrow is wash day. I hope to do a better job than I've done hither too. I think I depend too much on what boiling does for the clothes.

Good night my Darlings, I will be with you again soon. Give my regards to all.

Love and kisses,

Your boys,

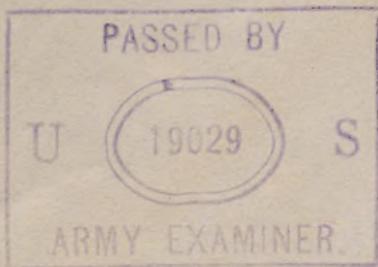
Bob and Brock

S/Sgt James R. Thornhill (7002192)
Hq & Hq Sq, 11th Bomb Group (H)
APO #708, c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, California



SERVICE MAIL VIA CLIPPER

VIA AIR MAIL



Mrs Bessie Thornhill
P.O. #205
Magnolia, Mississippi
U. S. A.

rttspaulding
1-11-48

Air Mail

6 January 1943

Dear Mom and All,

I know you are mad for not hearing from me before now but I just couldn't get around to it. The time passes so fast I can't keep up with it. It seems only yesterday that I wrote you but got to checking as to when I wrote the last one and its been a week. I still have nothing interesting to write about, nothing ever happens around here. The incomming mail is not so bad; except for times but most of it gets here in about 15 days. It seems that Brock gets his mail quicker than I do for some reason or other so from now on you can send all of our mail to him.

Too bad about the fruit cakes burning, boy how I would like to get in one of them. I hope you have better luck with the other one. We have had alkins of candy here since Xmas but its nothing like a good old fruit cake! with a nice cold glass of milk. I bet the turkey was really good when you got through with it. We had extra good turkey this time and I did enjoy it. You sure got a bargain when you bought yours.

It seems that your business is picking up. I hope you got a nother lady to work with your for ten hours is intirely too long. I didn't like the idea at first but if you like it and satisfied with the job its perfectly all right with me.

Too bad about B. J. solo, I know she must have been dissapointed after buying the new dress and everything. Maybe she will get a change to do it again. She must be pretty good, huh. I got a letter from her the other day telling me all about it and her new dress.

I wish you hadn't written the letter about the allotment. It want help a bit and I know why you hadn't recieived it. You should know me well enough to know that I wasn't going to let nothing happen to mymoney. The reason for it is that the application was late getting in. I had already checked on it long time ago; fact is the application asking for the allotment and the one discontinueing it went in at the same time and that was when I made Staff. So please don't worry about it and don't write anymore letters with out letting me ^{know} for I know all the ropes and etc, OK? He should be able to rush it up a little tho.

Glad to hear that you are wearing ashoe again. You foot must have been in pretty bad condition. Brock got a letter from Barbara yesterday saying Mrs Wall had fallen down the stairs and hurting her head very bed. I think she is in the hospital now. I will have to write her a letter soon as possible.

Brock got a letter from Ava today with the pictures I sent to have developed. I wonder why yours don't come out that good! Maybe you need more pratic, huh. By the way the home and the couple is Mr and Mrs Greggs, swell people. No news so will get some shut eye. Good by angle and remember I love you.

Bob

Falmage Brooks Hornhill
Sergeant, 72nd Bomb. Sq (H)
ABO # 7089 Postmaster
San Francisco California



~~Entered
Mailed
Post Office
cost 10c~~



Mrs. Bessie Hornhill
Box 205
Magnolia, Mississippi

January 8, 1943

Dear Mother & B.

To day is my day day to write letters when I finish I should have six to mail. I am glad I am no one that has to read what I write too. I received several wonderful letters this week. Letters from you, Eva, Maxine, Emerson, Caly & Hall. All of the lectures that were sent out came in these letters. I received forty pictures from New Zealand also that I sent there to be printed. I have one album full. I will fill back's now and still have pictures left for another.

Time passes on - I am still here. But, I know it won't be for as long as it has been. Five or six more months of this and I will be somewhere else; maybe at home and again maybe farther from home.

Bake is working again. For the past two weeks he didn't do a thing. I think he has enough to keep him busy for a couple days now. My work is the same only I have to go further to work. The work is easy and interesting; therefore I like it and the time spent there is not missed. It seems that I spend more time at the music hall than any where else.

I would send some of my pictures home
but I don't want to take the chance of losing
any. But to it will be more fun to explain
them to you at the same time. That is why
I am buying them. You saw enough in the
pictures I sent to have an idea what the place
is like. The one with me in bathing suit
was taken at Cantril I was taking a sun
bath. The picture of man and woman is
Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Greigs. The horse is theirs.
I took them two days before I left Lehr.
Bob has a dozen rolls of film and Ray has a
dozen. I think I have five rolls left.
If every roll is taken we will have all
kinds of pictures.

I washed to day. I forgot about my shorts
until I had my dark clothes in the wash. I washed
twelve towels, five suits of underware, 12 fair socks
four pairs of ~~small~~ Coveralls and a uniform
then my shorts.

I will see you again soon. Good
luck to you darling. Don't worry about
us. we have plenty. Take care of your self
and be ready to meet us soon.

Love
Bob O'Block

January 8, 1943

Dear Mother and B.J.

Today is my day to write letters. When I finish I should have six to mail. I am glad. I am no one that has to read what I write too. I received several wonderful letters this week. Letters from you, Ava, Maxine, Emerson, Cady and Wall. All of the pictures that were sent out came in these letters. I received 40 pictures from New Zealand also that I sent there to be printed. I have one album full. I will fill Bob's now and still have pictures left for another.

Time passes on-I am still here. But I know it won't be for as long as it has been. Five or six more months of this and I will be somewhere else, maybe at home and again maybe further from home.

Bob is working again. For the past two weeks he didn't do a thing. I think he has enough to keep him busy for a couple of days now.

My work is the same only I have to go further to work. The work is easy and interesting therefore I like it and the time spent there is not missed. It seems that I spend more time in the mess hall than any where's else. I would send some of my pictures home but I don't want to take the chance of loosing any. And to it will be more fun to explain them to you at the same time. That is why I am keeping them. You saw enough in the pictures I sent to have an idea what the place is like. The one with me in bathing suit was taken at Canton; I was taking a sun bath. The picture of man and woman is Mr. and Mrs.. Clyde Greigs. The house is theirs. I took them two days before I left Oahu. Bob has a dozen rolls of film and Ray has a dozen. I think I have five rolls left. If every roll is taken we will have all kinds of pictures.

I washed today. I forgot about my shorts until I had my dark clothes in the pot. I washed twelve towels, five suits of underwear, 12 pair of socks, four pair of coveralls and a uniform then my sheets.

I will see you again soon. Good luck to you darlings. Don't worry about us. We have plenty. Take care of yourself and be ready to meet us soon.

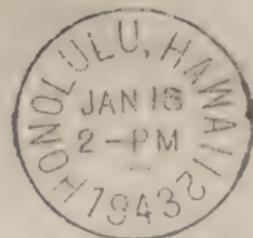
Love

Bob and Brock

U. S. A.

2731

B. L. Wohl
2667 Tantalus Dr.
Honolulu, T. H.



Mrs. Bessie Thorahill
Box 205
Magnolia
Mississippi



Barbara

Honolulu, T.H.
January 12, 1943

My dear Mrs. Thorabill,

Mother was so pleased and happy to receive your beautiful card and handkerchief and she wants me to tell you for her how sweet it was of you and how very much she appreciates it. Mother loves handkerchiefs and she has been showing it and the lovely card with the flowers to all her nurses.

We don't know yet just when Mother will be coming home. She is getting along fine but it is slow. She sits up in the chair for two hours each day and is more than ready to get back to bed again. Naturally

-2-
Barbara

she is weak and her head
still hurts. The unfortunate
thing is having that broken
cartilage in her knee, but I
guess that the doctors will do
what is best.

No word from the boys
since December 8th. I know
that Brock must have written
but the mail is just slow
now. They announced over the
radio, and informed us in the
newspapers that no packages,
magazines, or airmail letters
will be accepted for the boys
down South unless approved by
their Commanding Officer.
In other words, we are hereafter
to send letters by convoy and
that will take way over a
month! I am very disappointed,
but it must be. I am going

Barbara

to write to Brock tonight and explain. I realize, of course, that the Post Office is flooded with mail and can't handle all airmail, but it is a shame for the boys overseas for they look forward to mail and now it will be slow. Mother had some new magazines to send to the boys and I was just about to send them off when this restriction came along.

Please tell Ava that I took her letters and snapshots of the children down to Mother to read again, for when they first came Mother was more or less "out" and couldn't remember everything. She enjoyed them very much. How we

-4-

Barbara

should all love to see little Robert Brock. Of course we should love to see Sue also, for she is at a darling age just now.

I just remembered that Mother wanted me to tell you that she was sending a "Paradise of the Pacific" to you with a card inside. If you will please excuse the tardiness, I'll try to get it off to you soon.

How is Bettie Jean?

Many thanks to you for your sweet thoughtfulness.

With much love,

Barbara

Honolulu, T.H.
January 12, 1943

My dear Mrs. Thornhill

Mother was so pleased and happy to receive your beautiful card and handkerchief and she wants me to tell you for her how sweet it was of you and how very much she appreciates it. Mother loves handkerchiefs and she has been showing it and the lovely card with the flowers to all of her nurses.

We don't know yet, just when Mother will be coming home. She is getting along fine but it is slow. She sits up in the chair for two hours each day and is more than ready to get back to bed again. Naturally she is weak and her head still hurts. The unfortunate thing is having broken cartilage in her knee, but I guess that the doctors will do what is best.

No word from the boys since December 8th. I know that Brock must have written but the mail is just slow now. They announced over the radio and informed us in the newspapers that no packages, magazines, or airmail letters will be accepted for the boys down south unless approved by their commanding officer. In other words, we are hereafter to send letters by convoy and that will take way over a month! I am very disappointed, but it must be. I am going to write Brock tonight and explain. I realize, of course, that the Post Office is flooded with mail and can't handle all airmail, but it is a shame for the boys overseas for they look forward to mail and now it will be slow. Mother had some new magazines to send to the boys and I was just about to send them off when this restriction came along.

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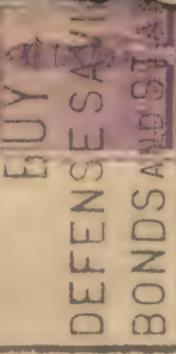
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How is Betty Jean?

Many thanks to you for your sweet thoughtfulness.

With much love,

Barbara



Mr. Mrs. Jessie I. Hanhil
Magnolia Pier

AFTER 10 DAYS RETURN TO
HAWAIIAN PINEAPPLE COMPANY
LIMITED
P. O. DRAWER 3380
HONOLULU, HAWAII, U. S. A.



KENNETH W. EMERSON

P. O. BOX 3380

Honolulu, Hawaii

Jan, 28, 1943

Dear Mrs. Thornhill,

I think Mrs. Emerson has written you so you know who the Emersons are and how we have enjoyed knowing your two fine boys, Bob and Brock. No doubt Brock wrote you about leaving his car with us when he left for the South a couple of months ago. It was very kind of him to let us use it while he was getting the ownership papers fixed up but when they finally arrived we sold it for him. The last payment was received a week or so ago and I am herewith sending the proceeds and final papers to you. He asked that you ~~not~~ hold the money for him, ~~as~~ he could have not much use for it in the jungles.

Both boys are very good letter writers and we all get a big kick out of the mail we get from them. Mrs. Emerson is the chief correspondent of our family and sometimes she isn't too good due to her many cares and responsibilities that seem to be the order of the day during these trying times we are going thru. Right now all the news seems to be good news and let's hope it continues to be. The Churchill and Roosevelt stand for an unconditional surrender may be more costly for the present but it should be better from the long range point of view.

We have a couple of foot lockers and odds and ends belonging to the boys stored in our attic and will try to take good care of them until they get back into circulation. The whole family is looking forward to seeing Brock and Bob's cheerful faces drop in again. They have always been more than welcome and always will be. Best wishes to you and yours.

Yours truly

Kenneth W. Emerson

- Typing back from Hill
Sgt. 202210 72nd Inf. Sq.
ASD#708 4th Battalion
San Francisco, Calif.
February 24, 1943

Dearest Brother & B.J.

The Xmas package came yesterday
the candy part is good. The gum was
the best idea though. we get candy
all the time but no gum and I'd
like to chew gum. I am glad you
sent hard candy. if it had been
soft it would have spoiled in
the length of time

I will be off the line for one
week begining to day. There is a
special job to be done that man
will assigned to go on work at
a time. I will be in charge. There

has to be a truck driver so I will
probably be the driver. Driving a
truck will be more interesting than
the other work.

I don't boil my dark clothes
any more. I take them in
jacuzzi over night and he often
put to dry and air. Sometimes
it rains and rinse the clothes on
the line & off from Hilda to day. She is
to be married soon. All gone get a
big laugh. Remember how he taught
utone when Grace married

Love to all
Bob + Vick

Talmadge Brock Thornhill
Sgt.7002200 72nd Bomb. Sq
APO# 708 c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, Calif.
February 24, 1943

Dearest Mother and B.J.

The Xmas package came yesterday. The candy sure is good. The gum was the best idea though. We get candy all the time but no gum and I do like to chew gum. I am glad you sent hard candy. If it had of been soft it would have spoiled in the length of time.

I will be off the line for one week beginning today. There is a special job to be done that men are assigned for one week at a time. I will be in charge. There has to be a truck driver so I will probably be the driver. Driving a truck will be more interesting than the other work.

[The next paragraph has been cut out by censor]

I don't boil my dark clothes any more. I soak them in gasoline overnight and hang them out to dry and air. Sometimes it rains and rinse the clothes on the line.

Bob got a letter from Hilda today. She is to be married soon. All of us got a big laugh. Remember how he laughed at me when Grace married.

Love to all,

Bob and Brock

McComb Miss
Monday night

My dearest boys:

Just a note before the postman comes. Should have written you last night but Gibson and I drove from Jackson or Terra in a storm. And I was whipped down when we got here. First the wind blew and we found the car making 65 - no fault of the driver of course just the wind. The rain came at Hazlehurst and such a rain I've never seen. We had to stop several times because we couldn't see a thing. A good bit of the road was a long with the rain. The general all over the state killing blowing down a number of so we were hasty to make it home safe. I got out the car on the curb and ran for the porch and got so wet I had to change clothes. It was pouring.

We took mamma home. She just had to go after her two weeks stay. So don't she will want to come back in couple of weeks if she's able. Please her heart she is going down so fast. I'm so glad

you got to see her when you did. I'm
afraid she want make many ^{more} trips back
and forth.

I want try to tell you about Jep's wedding
but will enclose one of Celia's letter and
you'll know it all. If he's even half as
good as she pictures him Jepa. is still
lucky. I do hope every thing will be good
for her for she had a lot of unhappiness.

The month of March has been different from
any I remember - no cold and very
little wind except Sun. night. Even fig leaves
or green groves and pecans or putting out.
As it stands there should be plenty of fruit
~~water~~ you will at least have figs, pears
blackberries and black berries. Strawberries
- Box and I certainly don't think
that good.

So - I don't understand about our allot-
ment weeks. I can't find any one else that
had to wait near so long. Dora and several
others got theirs in a month. Holson thinks
I should go to the Red Cross and ask them
to say and get it started for me. Certainly
would make a difference in my peace of
mind if it would come on. Since it's
been so long. I can't feel sure. You know

You made application about three weeks
after Major and wife came in Dec. If
I don't hear from them by the first. Tell
me about borrowing the money to come
see you on. I really think if you would
write them it would help more than the Red
Cross. Tell them how much we need the
funds etc.

I'm still sewing and am so tired of
it. Expect to devote next week to making some-
thing for my self and I hate sewing for
my self more than anything I know. Have
Sue's and Betty J. Washable looking much better.

Almost time for postman. Then I'll
have to start sending your letters by
air-mail since the increase of post
is to stand nine cents other.

5 dollars and the date again

To love you
mother.

March 1943
McComb

My dearest boys,

Just a note before the postman comes. Should have written you last night but Hobson and I drove from Jackson or Terra in a storm and I was whipped down when we got here. First the wind blew and we found the car making 65. No fault of the driver of course just the wind. The rain came at Hazlehurst and such a rain I've never seen. We had to stop several times because we couldn't see a thing. A good bit of hail was mixed along with the rain. The storm was general all over the state, killing several and blowing down a number of houses, so we were lucky to make it home safe. I got out of the car on the curb and ran for the porch, and got so wet I had to change clothes. It was pouring.

We took Mama home. She just had to go after her two weeks stay. No doubt she will want to come back in a couple of weeks if she's able. Bless her heart she is going down so fast. I'm so glad you got to see her when you did. I'm afraid she won't make many more trips back and forth.

I won't try to tell you about Jepa's wedding but will enclose one of Alle's letters and you'll know it all. If he's even half as good as she pictures him Jepa is still lucky. I do hope everything will be good for her for she's had a lot of unhappiness.

The month of March has been different from any I remember, no cold and very little wind except Sun. night. Even fig leaves are full grown and pecans are [putting out. As it stands there should be plenty of fruit. May be we'll at least have figs, pears, huckleberries and blackberries. Strawberries are 40¢ a box and I certainly don't think they are that good.

Sons I don't understand about our allotment checks. I can't find anyone else that's had to wait near so long. Dora and Rev and others got theirs in 6 months. Hobson thinks I should go to the Red Cross and ask them to try and get it started for me. Certainly would make a difference in my peace of mind it would come on. Since it's been so long I can't feel sure, you know. You made the application about three weeks after Major and Ava's came in Dec. If I don't hear from them by the first I'll see about borrowing the money to come see you on. I really think if you would write them it would help more than the Red Cross. Tell them how much we need the funds, ect.

I'm still sewing and am so tired of it. Expect to deviate next week to making something for myself and I hate sewing for myself more than anything I know. I have Sue's and Betty J.'s wardrobe looking much better.

Almost time for postman. Guess I'll have to start sending your letters by regular mail since the increase of post again. Can't stand nine cents often.

Be sweet darlings and I'll write again real soon.

I love you,

Mother

No.



S. T. TALMAGE R. THORNTON
74th BOMB GROUP (H)
APO 708 1/2 POSTMASTER
SAN FRANCISCO CALIF.

MRS BESSIE TALMAGE
(Sender's name)

MAGNOLIA MISS.
(Sender's address)

MARCH 1. 43.

RECIPIENT'S STAMP:

Hello Darling I do feel so much better to day. I got a letter from each of my Sis. one Wednesday, the other Friday and one from Deb to day. I do believe my dear wife will be coming home before long. Deb doesn't happy over the happenings you trying to move Calif. took a big bus over Rock River left behind. That's all we should expect if you entered the people two ~~and~~ brothers ahead. Darling I hope you will soon yellow and then can come home to gather. I feel that this will come true not too far in the future it must. Others are coming home along with me.

The \$100.00 money order came to day. We put it in the bank and add to it as you send more home so it will be ready to draw out when you want it. She handled more stones in the last three weeks than ever. Checks for both Fred & You. Check from the Government. And what fine take in and paid out. Both your check came to day. One for \$100.00. Betty Jean Name went on it so great she will get a separate check. I know we should get it and I wanted it for every body else is getting it. She hasn't been serving but about 4 months and there is still \$50. Check this month - 1/2 per cent for 3 months. I am lauging and she makes \$15.00 in 3 months. What I mean? I still owe Hobson, car, car and refrigerator so am going to make him take care of this check. I've offered him some at different times but he said I don't need it. He is so sweet. I am going to do the same.

Stated as well
in our U. May 30th.

Magnolia, Miss
March 8, 43

Hello Darlings,

I do feel so much better today. I got a letter from each of you Sat. and yesterday, three from Brock and one from Bob today. I do believe my boys will be coming home before long. Bob, I'm so happy over the hopes of your return to Mrs. Cady. I took a big cry over Brock being left behind. That's as we should expect for you entered the jungles two months ahead. Darling I hope you will soon follow and then come home together. I feel that this will come true not too far in the future. It must, others are coming home every week.

The \$100 money order came today. Will put it in the bank and add to it as you send more home so it will be ready to draw out when you want it. I've handled more money in the last three weeks than ever. Checks for both cars, your checks from the government and what I've taken in and paid out. Bob your check came today. It's for \$210. Betty Jean's name wasn't on it so I guess she will get a separate check. I knew we should get it and I wanted it for everyone else is getting it. Gene hasn't been in service but about 4 months and Otesa got a \$50 check this month. I pay her \$20 her board and laundry and she makes \$115 a month. See what I mean. I still owe Hobson for car and refrigerator so I am going to make him take some out of this check. I've offered him some at different times but he says "I don't need it". He is so sweet. I've first started so I will look for more V-mail.

I love you, Mother

Dear Mother & B.J.

13 March 1943

I am a little late getting this off but since my arrival at
base here as busy and excited over the whole thing I just didn't
get around to it. I sent a telegram the day I arrived so you
would know it. I won't attempt to say how happy I am to be
back for it is almost impossible. It seems almost like a dream
to be sleeping on a bed again with sheets and one getting plenty
to eat also. Since we arrived I have been eating less stop daily
with all the ice cream, milkshakes and what have you. in the
Ball Park or the Beer garden every day so I have had my share of it too.
We are doing a lot to get the room for the boys and
expecting a big time. we have been favored since we arrived
so haven't had a chance to go to town or yet. I think we get horses
in town and you can imagine how fun looking forward to getting

we had a pretty good trip back until we almost stoned. we
had two rather rough days but didn't get sea sick from looking
forward to the on to the states which shouldn't be too long
off. we're back now and will be home in about a week
when back there.

I received a couple of your letters with the new 770 today
I arrived. If seems the regular letter came though. Just as
fast as the V-Mail so why not write them. I got one from
B.J. this morning and it come just as fast. I have so soon
now to write I hardly know where to start. I am writing today
one night so will try to get a few of them. I know you are in mod
or the mind of me but you know how it is. from all the friends
and all are well.

Glad to hear you have the time and woebe if will get to us
thru a little. I like the bond account sounds good to me.
I think we get paid today so will be sending you will until
more later.

Love Bob

13 March 1943

Dear Mother and B.J.

I am a little late getting this off but since my arrival I have been so busy and excited over the whole thing. I just didn't get around to it. I sent a telegram the day I arrived so guess you received it. I won't attempt to say how happy I am to be back for it is almost impossible. It seems almost like a dream to be sleeping on a bed again with sheets. We are getting plenty to eat also. Since we arrived I have been eating two [unreadable] daily with all the ice cream, milk shakes and what have you. We have roll call at the beer garden every day so I have had my share of it too. We are having a beer bust this afternoon for the boys and expecting a big time. We have been quarantined since we arrived so hadn't had a chance to go to town yet. I think we get passes tomorrow and you can imagine how I am looking forward to getting in town.

We had a pretty good trip back even though we almost starved. We had two or three rough days but didn't get sea sick. I am looking forward to [unreadable] to the station which shouldn't be too long off. We had a choice of [two lines cut out by censor]

I received a couple of your letters with the new APO the day I arrived. It seems the regular letter comes through just as fast as the V.mail so why not write them. I got one from B.J. this morning and it came just as fast. I have so darn many to write I hardly know where to start. I am working today and night so will try to get a few of them. I know Ava is mad as the devil at me but you know how it is. I saw all the friends and all is well.

Glad to hear you have the tires and maybe I will get to use them a little. I like the bank account, sounds good to me. I think we get paid today so will be sending more. Will write more later.

Love, Bob

No.



[CENSOR'S STAMP]

R. J. Brock Thornehill
7th and Dorset Sq (H)
A.P.D. 708
GPO Postmaster
San Francisco Cal
Missouri
My WA Knight
4079 Belvoir
Jackson
Date 3-17-43

My Dear Boys. This is good old St Patrick Day, and I wonder what the old boy would think if he could look our for pineland. Our men in work

Change from his world at war. I had a birthday and it was a good one too, got so many nice things, and had a pleasant day.

I have been working at the Canteen to day and my dog do hurt, but I am happy to be able to work.

John was up this weekend, he has been out in the woods for three week and it was cold for but he looks well, he will be leaving Shelby soon. Well so long for to night be seeing you soon

V-MAIL

How is the
Wash Coming

72nd Bomb Sq. (H)
APO 708
San Francisco, CA

My Dear Boys,

This is good old St Patrick's day and I wonder what the old boy would think if he could look for an instance on you tonight. What a change from his world at war.

I had a birthday and it was a good one too. Got so many nice things, and had a pleasant day..

I have been working at the canteen today and my "dogs do hurt" but I am happy to be able to work.

John was up this weekend. He has been out in the woods for three weeks and it was cold too, but he looked well. He will be leaving Shelby soon. Well so long for tonight. Be seeing you soon. How is the wash coming

[unreadable] (written by Dora Knight)

No. _____



Mrs. Bessie Thornhill
Box 205
Magnolia, Mississippi

S/Sgt T.B. Thornhill

(Sender's name)

72nd Bomb. Sq. APO 708

(Sender's address)

Alb. San Francisco, Cal.

March 20, 1943

(Date)

Had morning leave. I went to work this morning. I was assigned new chief of 054, one of our planes. He is not here now - that's why I am back at my tent. I have read two stories this morning, both war stories. I am resting while I wait you. I do, I know why but I don't like to read more than two stories at a time. I get tired and restless and can't get comfortable. That's why I read awhile then write and then just talk to the boys.

The sun is out bright and hot this morning. Maybe my clothes will dry. They probably won't smell any too good but they won't be dirty. I dried my sheet in side of tent yesterday and used it last night. I put the top sheet on bottom and this one on top. Three sheets see. That way I wash only one at a time.

You V-mail letter of February 22 came yesterday. Also one from Eva and one from my friend Dora. I wrote both of them last night. I try to write often but at fail at times. Good day forever - give my love to all. Bob + Brock

V-MAIL

V-Mail Service is available to provide the most expeditious dispatch and reduce the weight of mail to and from the personnel of our Armed Forces outside the continental United States. When addressed to points where micro-film equipment is in operation, a miniature photographic negative of the message will be made and sent by the most expeditious form of transportation available for reproduction and delivery. Messages addressed to or from points where micro-film equipment is not in operation will be transmitted in their original form by the most expeditious means available.

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- (5) The original will be destroyed after the corresponding film has been delivered at the destination.



10-28143-2

WRITE HERE
DO NOT

WRITE HERE
DO NOT

FOLD HERE

FOLD HERE

WRITE HERE
DO NOT

WRITE HERE
DO NOT

MAIL

Franklin, Massachusetts
Massachusetts 02101
Mr. James L. Jones

2597-TB-TH020611-262260
22nd B, m/s 25-A 20 28 4 P.M.
AFTER ____ DAYS RETURN TO

FOLD SIDES OVER AND
NO OTHER

S/Sgt T.B. Thornhill
72nd Bomb Sq. APO 708
c/o PM San Francisco, Cal.
March 20, 1943

Mrs.. Bessie Thornhill
Box 205
Magnolia, Mississippi

Good morning darlings. I went to work this morning. I was assigned Crew Chief of 054, one of our planes. It's not here now-that's why I am back at my tent. I have read two stories this morning, both war stories. I am resting while I write you. I don't know why but I don't like to read more than two stories at a time. I get tired and restless and can't get comfortable. That's why I read a while then write and then just talk to the boys.

The sun is out bright and hot this morning. Maybe my clothes will dry. They probably won't smell any too good, but they won't be dirty. I dried my sheet inside of the tent yesterday and used it last night. I put the top sheet on bottom and this one on top. Three sheets see. That way I wash only one at t time.

Your V. mail letter of February 22 came yesterday. Also one from Ava and one from Aunt Dora. I wrote both of them last night. I try to write them often but I fail at times.

Good day lovers

Send my love to all

Bob and Brock

Print the complete address in plain black letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No

Sgt. TALMAGE B THORNDIKE
72nd BOMB GROUP (H)
A.P.O # 708. 9th POSTMASTER
SAN FRANCISCO
CALIF.

From MRS BESSIE THORNDIKE
Sender's name
POSTMASTER 92155
Sender's address
P.O. BOX 205

MARCH - 31 - 43.
Date

INSIDE STAMP

My dearest boys: A letter came from Bob, to day written the 5th of this month. He said he expected to see me lady with in a month which means his on his way or about to sail. He'll be so relieved when he lands again. I hope his return trip will be as pleasant as when he went over. Good how do you went to come back - like you went or by boat.

John and his girl friend came over this week end. We enjoyed the children came down here with them yesterday for dinner. I had two eggs from Camp Van Dorn also. I had fried chicken fingers & ice cream and a lot of good things to eat. Every body seemed to enjoy the day very much. The boys from Van Dorn were the most grateful we've seen. They are coming back soon John leaves ~~for~~ next week for two weeks of maneuvers in a. They will not come back to Camp Shiloh, and we're already worried about where he might be sent. He's been lucky but I wouldn't doubt but that he will be sent across when the maneuvers are over.

I got a letter from Mrs. Cody yesterday. Said she had a Japanese friend at Camp Shiloh who likes for me Cody until he enlisted. His name is Sgt. Jack Matata but she didn't give me his full address. John took his name and said he felt sure he could find him. I'd love to have him come over for the 4th and but don't he gets to

V MAIL

Conc. cont.
Continuing mother

Print the complete address in plain block letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No

To
Sgt. TALMAGE B. THORNHILL
72nd BOMB GROUP (H)
R.P.O. 708% POSTMASTER
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

From
MRS BESSIE THORNHILL
(Mother & son)
MAGNOLIA MISS
(Mother's address)

BOX 205

MARCH 22-43.

Hello. Believe I was talking about the Supt tomorrow. The reason John thought he could get it off to come over is that they are leaving the same time for Germany. I certainly would love to see and talk with him.

I saw it in the paper where John came in from. Then I thought he might come to see me but he hasn't. He didn't know how long he will be home. You tell him every body else comes home.

Oh yes. Mrs. Byrd has been notified by the government that both of her boys - Malcolm and Marshall - are prisoners of war. May be Selig Klemm home will come out next. You remember they were reported missing in October after the fall of the Philippines and this is the first she heard since.

Sgt. Paul you expect to make Staff soon. I'm so proud for you. He also said you would loose a few dollars on it for my allowance would stop. I still say you are wrong about that. They sent me a couple of blanks to fill out for Bob and had Staff Sgt. on the letter they wrote me. So I then I got the check for him. The checks are for \$37. net \$50. Wife gets \$50 and Mother gets only \$37. So you see the government only pays out 4%. Mrs. Lee husband is top Sgt and he gets a government check every month.

See and Robert Brock going up to California. We been up there twice since we got married. We have not been up there since we got married. See you darling on

March 21, 43

My dearest boys,

A letter came from Bob today written the 5th of this month. Still said he expected to see Mrs.. Cady within a month which means he is on his way or about to sail. I'll be so relieved when he lands again. I hope his return trip will be as pleasant as when he went over. Brock, how do you want to come back – how you went or by boat.

John and his girlfriend came over this week and Ava, Major, and the children came down here with them for dinner. I had two boys from Camp Van Dorn also. I had fried chicken, freezer of ice cream and a lot of good things to eat. They are coming back soon. John leaves next week for two weeks of maneuvers in LA. They will not come back to Camp Shelby and he is already worrying about where he might be sent. He's been lucky but I wouldn't doubt but that he will be sent across when maneuvers are over.

I got a letter from Mrs. Cady yesterday. Said she had a Japanese friend at Camp Shelby that worked for Mr. Cady before he enlisted. His name is Sergeant Jack Murata but she didn't give me his full address. John took his name and said he felt sure he could find him. I'd love to have him come over for the weekend but doubt he gets to come.

(from new page) Hello, I believe I was talking Sgt. Murata. The reason John thought he wouldn't get to come over is that they are leaving the same time for maneuvers. I sure would love to see and talk with him.

I saw in the paper where Jerome Johnson is home. Thought he might come to see us but he hasn't. Don't know how long he will be home. See, I tell you everyone else comes home.

Oh yes, Mrs. Byrd has been notified by the government that both of her boys – Malcolm and Marshall – are prisoners of war. Maybe [unreadable] name will come out next. Remember they were reported missing in October after the fall of the Phillipines and this is the first she has heard since.

Bob said you expected to make Staff soon. I'm so proud for you. He also said you would lose a few dollars on it for my allotment would stop. I still say you are wrong about that. They sent me affidavit blanks to fill out for Bob and it had Staff Sergeant on the letter they wrote me. Since then I got the check for his. The checks are for \$37, not \$50. Wives get \$50 and mothers get only \$37. So you can see the government only pays me \$15. Mrs. Rash's husband is top sergeant and he gets a government check every month.

Sue and Robert Brock have awful colds. I've been up helping doctor them today. Both were much better tonight. First time our babies have been sick.

I love you darlings, M

No.



[CENSOR'S STAMP]

R. J. Brock Thornehill
17th and Boswell Sq (H)
A.P.D. 708
GPO Postmaster
San Francisco Calif
Missouri
My WA Knight
4027 Pekewing
Jackson
Date 3-17-43

My Dear Boys. This is good old St Patrick Day, and I wonder what the old boy would think if he could look our for pineland. Our men in work

Change from his world at war. I had a birthday and it was a good one too, got so many nice things, and had a pleasant day.

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Wash. Coming

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APO 708
San Francisco, CA

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[unreadable] (written by Dora Knight)

No. _____



Mrs. Bessie Thornhill
Box 205
Magnolia, Mississippi

S/Sgt T.B. Thornhill

(Sender's name)

72nd Bomb. Sq. APO 708

(Sender's address)

Alb. San Francisco, Cal.

March 20, 1943

(Date)

Had morning leave. I went to work this morning. I was assigned new chief of 054, one of our planes. He is not here now - that's why I am back at my tent. I have read two stories this morning, both war stories. I am resting while I wait you. I do, I know why but I don't like to read more than two stories at a time. I get tired and restless and can't get comfortable. That's why I read awhile then write and then just talk to the boys.

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10-28143-2

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MAIL

Franklin, Massachusetts
Massachusetts 02101
Mr. James L. Jones

2597-TB-TH020611-262260
22nd B, m/s 25-A 20 28 4 P.M.
AFTER ____ DAYS RETURN TO

FOLD SIDES OVER AND
NO OTHER

S/Sgt T.B. Thornhill
72nd Bomb Sq. APO 708
c/o PM San Francisco, Cal.
March 20, 1943

Mrs.. Bessie Thornhill
Box 205
Magnolia, Mississippi

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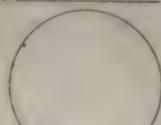
Good day lovers

Send my love to all

Bob and Brock

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No.



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

S/Sgt. T. B. THORNTON 70022
700800 GROUP (A)
AFB-7089 POSTMASTER.
MONROVIA MISS.

From
MRS BESSIE TURNER
(Sender's name)
MONROVIA MISS
(Sender's address)
BOY 205
MONROVIA MISS
(Date)

Hello - I decided to write another page. You ask about what I wanted you to do about S-mail. I just keep using it cause it comes quick and I notice you don't use stamps. About half of them come just as you will think and I like that fine. The main thing they are hearing from you. Please write me often for \$1 & fail to hear from you I don't know what I'll do since you are along.

We are having our revival this week. I haven't been able to get along the service but have enjoyed those I did very much. The Minister of McComb is doing the preaching. Our pastor is a good singer and leader so we're had good singing. Willie came down to night and she said it had been a long time since she had heard such good music. I SOT. back home to Monrovia. I'm very anxious to see it for every body says it grand. It's been here twice and I missed it so thought I'd cut church to see it. Saw her flight last week and think it first.

The quartet sang to night and I thought our baby did fine. I'm making her a white dress to monrovia to wear in the Easter program Sun. The New Club and quartet are going to the girls program at church Sun. Will be Robert Bridge just Easter. She seems a little excited for her. She never gets all in the air over anything. Very little Candy and other things for Easter and you may dear for the little things. Be my son and and keep praying.

Yours, Greg Chay
Loring mother.

Hello, I decided I would continue this for another page. You asked what I wanted you do about Vmail. Just keep sending it for it comes quick and I noticed you don't use stamps. About half of them come just as you write them and I like that fine. The main thing dear is hearing from you. Please write me often for if I fail to hear from you I don't know what I'll do since you are alone.

We are having our revival this week. I haven't been able to attend all the services but have enjoyed those I did very much. Dr. Hunter of McComb is doing the preaching. Our pastor is a good singer and leader so we've had good singing. Vicki came down tonight and she said it had been a long time since she had heard such good music.

Sgt. York will be here tomorrow and I am very anxious to see it for everybody says it is grand. It's been here twice and I missed it so think I'll cut church and see it. Saw Air Flight last week and think it's fine.

The quartet sang tonight and I thought our Coby did fine. I'm making her a white dress tomorrow to wear in the Easter program Sun. The [unreadable] club and quartet are going to give a program at church Sun. Will be Robert Brock's first Easter. Sue seems a little excited for her. She never gets all in the air over anything. Very little candy and other things for Easter and you pay dear for the little there is. Be my same fine brave crew chief and keep praying darling. [unreadable] love mother

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No.



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

Mrs Bessie Thornhill
Box 205
Magnolia, Mississippi

S/Sgt. T.E. Thornhill
(Sender's name)

1st Bomb Sq A/V/TAC
(Sender's address)

Wor. San Francisco

March 21, 1943
(Date)

Just when I decide to use nothing but V-mail I get a letter from you saying you don't like it. that it takes all the feeling out of the meaning of a letter. I have discovered I can let you hear from us more often via V-mail than by regular mail. I searched for this discovery because you like to hear from us often. If you would rather I write the other method I will do so. Let me know by return mail. Until then I will use this type.

I saw Mrs. Garrison in "Random Harvest" last night. It was a good picture. Bob saw it for the second time. The Major and the minor is on the Island - I hope to see it before it leaves here.

The letter of February 26 from you came yesterday. I have a V-mail but that is a letter now. I am up to them - if you can't get us to them I will use air mail.

The electrical problems that I have to work are still there. They are about Series, Parallel and Series & Parallel circuits. If I master them I will be a genius. I will continue to study them even though I don't get the full meaning.

The food is good - Climate is not too bad - we are getting used - plenty of time to ready - write and sleep. Continue to be happy - mother dear. We will file the same. We didn't feel to go to sleep to it.

V--MAIL

For this but we have
done & done. But & done.

S/Sgt T.B. Thornhill
72nd Bomb.Sq. A 80708
c/o PM San Francisco
March 21, 1943

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The electrical problems that I have to work with are stiff one. They are about Series, Parallel and Series Parallel circuits. If I master them I will be a genius. I will continue to study then even though I don't get the full meaning.

The food is good-Climate is not too bad-We are under worked-Plenty of time to read and write and sleep.

Continue to be happy mother dear. We will do the same. We didn't ask for this but we have to put a stop to it.

Love and kisses, Bob and Brock

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No.



Mrs. Bessie Thornhill
Box 263
1189 Niles, Mississippi

S/Sgt. T.R. Thornhill
(Sender's name)

22nd Bomb Sq APO 718
(Sender's address)

8 P.M. San Francisco, Cal.
March 22, 1943
(Date)

How are my lovely mes to day. The twins are in the p. l. we have the best health. I think the hot cakes for breakfast has something to do with it. I didn't eat but three with gravy, butter and syrup.

The show I saw last night, I left home at eight thirty and played by Monte Woody & Eddie Layne. He played his guitar well so did she — I did not like the actress at all. She was on the screen. She looks like I think all women should look. No matter what angle you look from she is lovely. There are not many movie actresses in her class.

A letter that I wrote Maine in January came back to me yesterday. She hasn't moved I do you think. I will be with either Bob or I long time ago.

A long sweet letter from Mrs. Cadby came yesterday. She spoke like nothing government will return to Horrible soon. I couldn't tell the difference in the way each govern while I was there.

What do you think of the Dr. Young, emer. surgeon, at the University of him self at a University. After the car sides a young woman came up to him. "I hope you appreciate it," said, "that I have been 50 miles to see you first and only." when ever, with a big Dr. Young replied "I would go a thousand miles to see yours."

Love & Kisses,
Bob & Freda

V--MAIL

S/Sgt. T.B. Thornhill
72nd Bomb. Sq. APO 708
c/o PM San Francisco, Cal.
March 22, 1943

How are my lovely ones today. The twins are in the pink. We are in the best of health. I think the hot cakes for breakfast has something to do with it. I didn't eat but three with plenty of butter and syrup.

The show I saw last night, Life begins at Eight-Thirty" was played by Monte Woody and Ida Lupino. He played his part well so did she – I did more looking than listening when she was on the screen. She looks like I think all women should look. No matter what angle you look from she is lovely. There are not many movie actresses in her class.

A letter that I wrote Maxine in January came back to me yesterday. She hasn't moved do you think. I will check with letter Bob got a couple of days ago.

A long sweet letter from Mrs. Cady came yesterday. She spoke like Civilian Government will return to Honolulu soon. I couldn't tell the difference in the way each govern while I was there.

What do you think of this. Dr. Young, imminent surgeon, attended the unveiling of a bust of himself at a University. After the ceremonies a young woman came up to him "I hope you appreciate" she said "that I have come 50 miles to see your bust unveiled" whereupon with a bow Dr. Young replied "I would go a thousand to see your"

Love and Kisses,

Bob and Brock



THE SHERWIN-WILLIAMS CO.

PAINTS, VARNISHES, LACQUERS, LEADS, OILS, ENAMELS,
BRUSHES AND PAINTERS' SPECIALTIES.

320 EAST STATE STREET

ITHACA, N.Y.

March 26, 1943

Dearest Aunt Bess:

Now look here young lady just because your daughter has started to write me again that's no sign that you can stop. I haven't had a letter from you in months, oh yes I know you are busy but darn it so am I.

Ava sent me some pictures, guess you knew about it, and did I appreciate them. That Sue Carol is about the prettiest thing I have ever laid my two peepers on, honest I could have just hugged her. I bet Robert Brock is a darling too, he looks like Major and Sue Carol looks like Ava and him. Anyway what I am trying to say is that are both darlings.

Gosh Betty Jean has really grown, doesn't seem possible. What a good looking girl she has made, mother always said she was going to make a beautiful girl. I got to thinking about the time when she and I went fishing down at the cane, when I was looking at the pictures, and honest I had the best laugh you ever saw all to myself. Ask her if she still remembers us falling down the embankment and having so much fun.

Haven't heard from aunt Nora in quite awhile, said she wasn't feeling any too well the last time she wrote. I wrote her a long letter about three weeks ago and thought sure I would get an answer by now. Somehow my letters haven't been getting to her for she said she hadn't heard from me in about five months only a Xmas card.

We are having some beautiful weather up here now and hoping it will continue. I wrote the boys yesterday a two page letter and told me all the news I could possibly get hold of, and of course a lot of foolishness along with it.

Dell's sheep have begun to lamb now, the first came last night a pair of twins and they are the cutest things, black as the ace of spades. One of his sows had 11 pigs last week, so looks like the Hammond's have gone into having things, all but me.

Am expecting Jep tomorrow at 4:00 P.M. and will I be glad to see her. She spent the week with Dell's sister down in Hawthorn, N.J. They called me Sunday night and said she wouldn't be up until tomorrow for Pat had planned a lot of things for them to do. That gal sure has a good time and doesn't know it.

By the way while I think of it. Do you think it would be possible to get me a bushel of sweet ~~potatoe~~ potatoes and send me, could send them by freight or express, which ever you wanted to do but let me know ahead so I can send you the money in advance. Also if you have some pecans I would love to have some as it is almost impossible to get them up here and when you do you have to pay six prices for them. Let me know if you can do this for me honey.

Ava wrote me she had most of her garden planted. Boy it is hard to imagine for it will be a month at least before we dare plant anything.

Don't guess I know any more today but thought I would at least drop you a line and let you know things are going with the Hammond's.

Let me hear from you darling and know I love you dearly and will try to do better about writing. Tell Betty Jean I would love to hear from my cousin "Bettysy" some time.

Lovingly,

Maxine

W. R. Dimmick

Maxine
Williams

Telmap 8 onk Thankhill
1st 728 Bomber. Gm.
San Francisco, California
March 26, 1943

Dearest Mother and S. J.

I have no P. mail so I will write you a real letter. From what you tell me about P. mail I think you will enjoy your mail letter. So much has happened in the past two days now that I don't know where to begin telling you. First of all it was a good night for the last night we took a long tape around by having the front of the car. It was great and I like to see what it served as a guide. It was a wonderful story.

I awoke this morning washed my feet and went to bed. Even if I take a shower I have to wash my feet again & for going to bed for my shoes were dirty or muddy or sandy on side. If we'd been it would be said my shoes.

I slept well. I had a dream but I don't recall it at the present. When I awoke this morning it fine 8 o'clock to see my ship off the sky was clear. At breakfast the sun came up & has been out all day.

The sun shone full sun enough to dry clothes
so I washed the morning & I hope to take
my white clothes to night. I'll have the dark
ones out until to-morrow.

I have nothing work for me to do so I
helped pack my change & pack flag on his
plane. we checked them - they are ok.

But all i laugh for you - it goes in fat time -
"I don't offer you a task but, Mr. Brown," said
the butler, "since you are head of the Insurance League"
"And I am president of the Anti-Sweat League."
"Oh, well, I know there was something I should
offer you".

How are you girls and the older girls children?
I would ask about you but I know you are
feeling up to it and gay and as happy as can be
with the present conditions.

Did you see in the papers a few evenings back I
has been honored for the 48th time this month.
If such is continued there should be no wonder
to it soon.

Dine up for it all. I will see you again
soon. Love & Kisses. You keep
Bob & Brook

Talmadge Brock Thornhill
S/Sgt. 72nd Bomb. Sq. c/o PM
San Francisco, California
March 26, 1943

Dearest Mother and B.J.

I have no V.mail so I will write you a real letter. From what you told me about V.mail I think you will enjoy an air mail letter. So much has happened in the past twenty four hours that I don't know where to begin telling you. First of all it was a good night for a show last night. We took advantage of such by seeing "The Street of Chance". It wasn't what I would like to see but it serves as a good pass time. It was a murder story.

I returned home, washed my feet and went to bed. Even if I take a shower I have to wash my feet again before going to bed for my shoes are dirty or muddy or sandy inside. You see I don't want to soil my sheets.

I slept well. I had a dream but I don't recall it at the present. When I got up this morning at five o'clock to see my ship off the sky was clear. After breakfast the sun came up. It has been out all day.

The sunshine felt warm enough to dry clothes so I washed this morning. I hope to take in my white clothes tonight. I will have the dark ones out until tomorrow.

There wasn't any work for me to do so I helped another boy change spark plugs on his plane. We checked them-they are ok.

Another laugh for you-It goes as follows-"I won't offer you a cocktail, Mr. Brown", said the hostess, "since you are head of the Temperance League"

"No, I am president of the Anti-Vice league"

"Oh well, I knew there was something I should not offer you."

How are you girls and the elder girls children? I would ask about you but I know you are feeling young and gay and as happy as can be with the present condition.

Did you see in the paper where Munola Point has been bombed for the 98th time this month. If such is continued there should be no Munola Point soon.

Give my love to all. I will see you again soon. Love and kisses

Your boys Bob and Brock

Print the complete address in plain black letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not readable.

No. _____



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

ST. THOMAS B. THORNTON
7322 BONN GROVE (M)
A.P.O. #705. POSTMASTER.
SAN FRANCISCO 6.
CALIF.

From

MRS BOBBIE THORNTON
(Sender's name)

NEBRASKA CITY, NEB.
(Address)

BOX 205

MARCH 28. 43

Deeo Son. I must mention the Weather for we have
have had such bad weather for days. Yesterday and
to day is what you would call ideal. am expecting
a neighbor to help in my garden tomorrow and hope
the sun continues to shine. feel sure it will for
the sky a solid sheet of blue.

I just read the chapter you ask me to give you my
view point on - 1-Corinthians - 7th Verse. First I think
Paul wrote this mostly to pleasure good other religious
leaders. Meaning that one could do better work for the
Lord if not burdened with the care and responsi-
bility of a wife and family. However he says if
one should feel the desire for the privilege of marriage
it is best that they marry. And too you notice Paul did
speak this by stump talk and not of course having
Paul was in mind and didn't have the desire for
the wife things so he had a right to think & things to
be like him. I think this could be the chapter where
the Catholics got their belief of Priesthood and Sacerdotalism
Weinbrecht has told that first should await formation
that each person have their own husband and wife
and be faithful to each other. I want my boys to marry
some sweet clean girl and be just as silent and
clean as they expect their wife. If you do this you
can bring glory to your self and to God.

Well, with another letter from Bob dated the 23rd
and half in 23rd. Don't they answer for you! Did you
read my stuff and be envious or happy? But it said you
were rather off the mark. Well I hope it will be
too darling. I'll send you a letter when you get back.

March 28, 1943

Hello Son, (Brock)

I must mention the weather for we have had such bad weather for days. Yesterday and today is what you would call ideal. I'm expecting a negro to help in my garden tomorrow and hope the sun continues to shine. Feel sure it will for the sky is a solid sheet of blue.

Just read the chapter you asked me to give my viewpoint on – I Corinthians 7th verse. First I think that Paul meant this mostly to preachers and other [unreadable] leaders. Meaning that one could do better work for the Lord if not if not burdened with the care and responsibilities of a wife and family. However he says if one should feel the desire for the privileges of marriage it is best that they marry. And too you notice that Paul did speak this by permission and not by commandment. Paul wasn't married and didn't have the desire for the evil things so he had a right to think others to be like him. I think this could be the chapter where the Catholics get their belief of Priesthood and Sisterhood. We've already been told that [unreadable] should avoid fornication that each should have their own husbands and wife and be faithful to each other. I want my boys to marry some sweet clean girls and be just as sweet and clean as they expect their wife. If you do this you can bring glory to yourselves and to God.

Well, [unreadable] another letter from Bob dated the 22nd and mailed the 23rd. Don't they service for you? Said you had made Staff and seemed so happy over it. Said you just hadn't got the good marks that he had. [unreadable]

Print the complete address in plain block letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. _____



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

Mrs. Bessie Thornhill
Box 315
Magnolia, Mississippi

1st T-5 Thornhill
(Sender's name)

122d Bomb Sq AAF 708
(Sender's address)

San Francisco, Cal

March 20, 1943
(Date)

Hello Darling, just a few words to let you know you're very well, honey, baby, and thinking of you. And didn't I write you the letter about g'd, he was called out on business. Now that I will you more oft. He writes less. I see his go b. in a way but you don't for you like to see his signature. If you will be patient he will get in the habit of writing just as I do.

I saw some beauty in "Piccadilly Ranch" last night so night I saw "The March of America" and "Army Sergeant". Both a real great time.

Yet day and to day air-filled, with sound labor force checked all twelve (12), charged forty-five cent charge, and made a fifty-hour inspection. It usually takes four days for this job - a completed by my crew and I on Tuesday.

I received a wonderful letter from Mrs. Emerson to-day. She is a remarkable writer. I always enjoy her letters she and Mr. Cody wrote similar letters.

I had from Barbara also but her letter was dry as mud. I can't hesitate to answer her letters for I don't like to re-read them. I write for pleasure only though to fit her house I haven't forgotten the family.

I will be with you and we soon. Give me a good night kiss and I will have a sweet dream of you. Kisses, love to all my friends

V--MAIL

Cat - Block

S/Sgt. T.B. Thornhill
72nd Bomb. Sq. APO 708
c/o PM. San Francisco
March 30, 1943

Hello Darlings

Just a few words to let you know your sons are well, happy, and thinking of you. Bob didn't get to write you the letter I spoke of; he was called out on business. Now that I write you more often he writes less. I see his point in a way but you don't for you like to see his signature. If you will be patient he will get in the habit of writing just as I do.

I saw Gene Autry in "Melody Ranch" last night. Tonight I saw "The March of America" and "Army Surgeon". Both served as pass time.

Yesterday and today were filled with honest labor for we checked all valves (72), changed 45 spark plugs and made a fifty-hour inspection. It usually takes four days for this job was completed by my crew and I in two days

I received a wonderful letter from Mrs. Emerson today. She is a swell writer. I always enjoy her letters. She and Mrs. Cady write similar letters.

I heard from Barbara also but her letter was dry as usual. I was hesitate to answer her letters for I don't like to re-read them. I write her occasionally though to let her know I haven't forgotten the family.

I will be with you again soon. Give me a good night kiss so I will have a sweet dream of you. Give my love to the family and friends Bob and Brock

Print the complete address in plain black letters in the general box, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, don't ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

Miss Jeanne Bedford
Tad's Room 502 Ocean [on]
A.P.O. 7489, Port Chester
San Francisco, California

Miss Jeanne Bedford

3rd Street
Santa Barbara, Calif.
[return address]

Miss Jeanne Bedford
Milano, Miss U.S.A.

April 2/1943
Dear Buck.

My letters seem to be someone story in the same old way. everyday is so much the same & there know what to write. major & sue are still gone.

Betty more was out yesterday shopping. She sure making a cute kid. They're building new to their house & big ing it. They have lighter water also. she said and matto is al-
d was worried again about that something? Now you have
a dog in a spot hope he never comes back here don't
you?

My dog is a little - His 100% boy. What I'd give for you
+ Bob to see him now. He's a mess. I bought him a suit +
little white cap. Think you'll be here to help me celebrate
his 1st birthday.

John is on maneuvers now & thinks he won't be at
Shelly any more in fact all boys from there think they're
on their way over. His rating staff now. He quite a sick
man in a uniform. He still manages a grin with an
automobile. I can't say I thought much of last one to had
this. this a act.

Ray will be home in few weeks. Melba sure looks
good.

I sold baby's buggy & got me a stroller. It's
bulky for you can't get new one anymore. This one looks
nice to be second hand tho! I also have him a sun
chair that's awfully cute.

Must get to my three week but I wanted to get a note
off to you first. I wrote this & sipped my coffee. Did like
a sweet letter from you. Always yours. Ave

April 2, '43

[CENSOR'S STAMP]

April 3, 1943

Dearest Brock,

My letters seem to be same ole story in the same ole way. Every day is much the same and never know what to write. Major and Sue are still gone.

Betty Marie was out yesterday shopping. She's sure making a cute girl. There building more to chain house & painting it. They have lights and water also. She said Aunt Mattie and dad was married again. Ain't that something? Now you have a step ma. I just hope he never comes back here. Don't you?

My boy is a cutter. He is 100% boy. Oh what I'd give for you and Bob to see him now. He's a mess. I brought him a suit and a little white cap. Think you'll be her to help me celebrate his first birthday

John is on maneuvers now and & thinks he won't be at Shelby anymore in fact all boys from there think they are on their way over. He's rating staff now. He's quite a [unreadable] even in uniform. He still manages a gal with an automobile. I can't say I thought much of last one he had tho'. She's east.

Ray will be uncle in few weeks. Melba sure looks good.

I sold baby's buggy and got me a stroller. It was lucky for you can't get new ones anymore. This one looks nice to be second hand tho'. I also have him a sun chair that's awfully cute.

Must get to my housework but I wanted to get a note off to you first. I wrote this and sipped my coffee. I'd like a sweet letter from you.

Always yours, Ava

Print the complete address in plain black letters in the general box, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, don't ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

Miss Jeanne Bedford
Tad's Beach, San Bruno [Cal.]
April 2, 1943
Dear Friends,



Miss Jeanne Bedford

Tad's Beach, San
[San Bruno, California]

Miss Jeanne Bedford
U.S.A.

April 2, 1943
Dear Buck,

My letters seem to be someone's story in the sandish way. everyday is so much the same & there know what to write. major & sue are still gone.

Beth more was out yesterday shopping. She sure making a cute kid. They're building new to their house & big ing it. They have lighter water also. she said and matto is al led worried again about that something? Now you have to stop me & just hope he never comes back here don't you?

My dog is a little - His 100% boy. What I'd give for you to see him now. He's a mess. I bought him a suit & little white cap. Think you'll be here to help me celebrate his 1st birthday.

John is on maneuvers now & thinks he won't be at Shelly any more in fact all boys from there think they're on their way over. His rating staff now. He quite a sick man in a uniform. He still manages a grin with an automobile. I can't say I thought much of last one to had this. this a act.

Ray will be home in few weeks. Melba sure looks good.

I sold baby's buggy & got me a stroller. It's baby for you can't get new one anymore. This one looks nice to be second hand tho! I also have him a sun chair that's awfully cute.

Must get to my three week but I wanted to get a note off to you first. I wrote this & sipped my coffee. Did like a sweet letter from you. Always yours. Ave

April 2, '43



April 3, 1943

Dearest Brock,

My letters seem to be same ole story in the same ole way. Every day is much the same and never know what to write. Major and Sue are still gone.

Betty Marie was out yesterday shopping. She's sure making a cute girl. There building more to chain house & painting it. They have lights and water also. She said Aunt Mattie and dad was married again. Ain't that something? Now you have a step ma. I just hope he never comes back here. Don't you?

My boy is a cutter. He is 100% boy. Oh what I'd give for you and Bob to see him now. He's a mess. I brought him a suit and a little white cap. Think you'll be her to help me celebrate his first birthday

John is on maneuvers now and & thinks he won't be at Shelby anymore in fact all boys from there think they are on their way over. He's rating staff now. He's quite a [unreadable] even in uniform. He still manages a gal with an automobile. I can't say I thought much of last one he had tho'. She's east.

Ray will be uncle in few weeks. Melba sure looks good.

I sold baby's buggy and got me a stroller. It was lucky for you can't get new ones anymore. This one looks nice to be second hand tho'. I also have him a sun chair that's awfully cute.

Must get to my housework but I wanted to get a note off to you first. I wrote this and sipped my coffee. I'd like a sweet letter from you.

Always yours, Ava

THE LARGEST OF THE CIVILIAN AIRPORTS IN THE
COUNTRY IS LOCATED IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

101

Print the complete address in plain black letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not readable.

Dear T. B. THORNHILL 700320
72nd Regt S.A. (4)
A.P.O. 7057, POSTMASTER,
SAN FRANCISCO
CALIF.

Mrs. BOBBIE THORNHILL
near San Francisco
Box 805

APR 16, 1943

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

My darling - Your Mother is still a very busy woman
Managing the land & I'm finding 22 people. They help me with
Chickens and farming. I planted my garden here and after
half of the big garden was plowed out went back. Just the right
behind my garden planted but went plant before 1 of 5 m.
There been many so it's a pleasure so it will have
to be plowed again and conditioned before planting
dikes. Down out this night so went to Jonason for the tile
and expected to not but Mammi and Anna could work
out with them this so here and I did the cooking. Well & with
you mammi looks grand and Anna is best as I remembered
about them.

I'm going to start dressing my chickens to put in my
cooker in the cold storage plant. Here 50 left but think
I'll send 6 or 8 nice flocks. We barely enough to get a
full & poultry wire so can enlarge my hen yard there
I have but want to add another day.

Bobi Cable. Come Sun. night first before I reached her
so glad to get it and hope it won't be long be-
fore I get one from you from there. Also got a
letter from Barbara. Just as I was saying they were making
one for Bobi soon. Thank her we all were
Waiting it was for the two of you and hoping
you would soon receive. She had just received a
letter from you and seemed rather blistful than you
ever asked you concerning it. Fair about whether or
not there a chance for you. Also owing to the state soon
to being as young wife I turned - after a year and more
of trying to get a job and failing to do so now
I am getting a job at the post office. I am not
very happy about it but I am getting a job.

April 13, 43

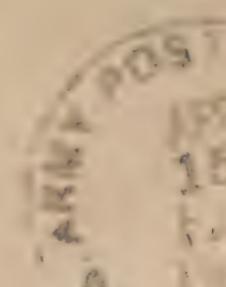
My Darling, (Brock)

Your mother is still a very busy woman counting Betty and I I'm feeding 22 people besides raising chickens and farming. I planted my garden here and over half of the big garden at the place last week. Got the big lot behind my garden plowed but won't plant before the first of May. Have been using it for a pasture so it will have to be plowed [unreadable] and conditioned before planting. I was worn out Friday night so I went to Jackson for the weekend. Expected to rest but mama and Lena cook walked out on them Friday so Lena and I did the cooking. Glad I went there mama looks good and Lena is better so I am not worried about them.

I'm going to start dressing my chickens to put in my locker in the cold storage plant. Have 50 left but I think I'll save 6 or 8 nice pullets. Was lucky enough to get a roll of poultry wire so I can enlarge my hen yard. I have 14 hens but would like to add another dozen.

Bob's cable came Sun. night just before I reached home. Was so glad to get it and hope it won't be long before I get one from you from there. Ava got a letter from Barbara yesterday saying they were making big plans for Bob's return, and like me she was wishing it was for the two of you and hoping you would soon follow. She had just received a letter from you and seemed rather elated. Have you ever asked your commanding officer about whether or not there's a chance of your returning to the states soon. I hear of so many that returned after a year and more of service [damage and unreadable] Love you darling, mother

Johnall Brock Thorhill
31 Oct 1918 Post No 181703
AMERICAN RED CROSS
to San Francisco, California



Via Clipper

Mrs. Jessie Thorhill
Box 205
Magnolia, Mississippi

Rec'd

Tolson Hotel San Fran
557 72nd Street A. 767
To San Francisco, California
April 13, 1943

Dearest Darling,

The mail came through to day.
One letter from Betty Jean one from her
Dad, one from her and five from Mother.
These are dated from March 17 to March
23. These letters should have come two
weeks ago. Our mail came to day, March
April 3. Such has proved to me that
air mail is a laugh.

Betty Jean you may purchase your
shirt and without ever being farther
than 8 miles Mississippi. I for one
am going to spend the night
at Uncle Bob's. who I return
I assure you that you won't the
with me will not be disagreeable.

The only way to win a back ball
you are to throw the ball through
the wire. If you inside $\frac{3}{4}$ of a shot

you should shoot all the time.

You were away about the 1st
Bach sailed. We sailed one month
later. We are now in the land of
Peru - plenty to do & no doubt. I
am here alone and happy to be - go
through. You spoke of soldiers visiting, the
form - it is easier to visit soldier homes
if the host or hostess know what
a soldier would like to eat. I don't
know how you intended this but
I do have a suggestion. What large
a place is for a female companion ship. If
you have any care to your hosts for a
few days or dinner by all means have
a talk for them and try to get them
to go out to a movie or for coffee
or something at a night club. And if you
are selecting girls for your home, make
you may look around for a couple
that I may be interested in.
But before you can see me go ashore.

I would like to fly back but
that is out of the question until
there has been a bill passed in order
to do so. The most convenient party
will be by transport; therefore, I
will go by air.

I shall only be part of the long flight
I believe over medical bombing.
I hope it will be sent across to
Africa instead of this
place for a while.

Tell Mrs. Lynd that I will do
all I can to get her some sort of
prison. I am glad they are prisoners
and not captives. It is so hard to have
of misusing them.

You are wrong about the voluntariness
for I sign the paper - but only if
it is to be discontinued; it is not
government's idea. If you want go
government checks so you will have
to take from our checks the amount
you need.

The weather was rather wet in
your town the month of March I
do hope you had a dry summer
for a change. I would not like it if I
like to live in the rain. we
have also had quite a steady

Ho old Spanish and old coffee
came over last night with a liter
of beer and a bucket of yeast in
it. I do not know how "Fedor
my Darling" we stayed out late
yesterday as I am leaving for Australia
soon. If you are right the gentle
folk there their dogs are doing
just as we are in good health.

I am sleepy so I will just write
now and go to bed to my bed. I
spent the afternoon but am
still sleepy

love and best to you all
A very good night to you

W. J. May,
W. J. May

Talmage Brock Thornhill
S/Sgt. 72nd Bomb. Sq. APO 708
c/o PM. San Francisco, California
April 13, 1943

Dearest Darlings,

The mail came through today. One letter from Bettye Jean, one from Aunt Dora, one from Ava, and five from Mother. These are dated from March 17 to March 23. These letters should have came two weeks ago. Air mail came today mailed April 3. Such has proved to me that V-mail is a laugh.

Bettye Jean you may purchase you the best and prettiest evening clothes in the State of Mississippi for we are going to spend an evening or two at Uncle Buds when I return. I assure you that your presents there with me will not be a disgrace.

The only way to win a basketball game is to throw the ball through the ring. If you made $\frac{3}{4}$ of your shots you should shoot all the time.

You were wrong about the date Bob sailed. He sailed on month later. He is now in the land of Paradise plenty happy no doubt. I am here alone and happy to be in good health.

You spoke of soldiers visiting the home. It is okay to visit nice homes if the host or hostess knows what a soldier would like to do. I don't know how you entertained them but I do have a suggestion. What Boys live for is female companionship. If you have boys come to your house for an evening or dinner by all means have a date for them and arrange for them to go out to a movie or for a few minutes at a night club. While you are selecting girls for your house parties you may look around for a couple that I may be interesting in. Bettye Jean can serve as a co-advisor.

I would like to fly back but that is out. When we leave we will leave our planes here for someone else to use. The most convenient way will be by transport; therefore we will go by sea.

John, my cousin, may be part of the company that will relieve our medical company. I hope he will be sent across the Atlantic instead for this is no place for a white man.

Tell Mrs. Byrd that I will do all I can to get her sons out of prison. I am glad they are prisoners and not corpses. They do have a chance of returning home.

You are wrong about the allotment for I sign the papers last week for it to be discontinued; it was the government's idea. You won't get government checks so you will have to take from our checks the amount you need.

The weather was rather wet in your town the month of March. I do hope you will have a dry season for a change. I know what it is like to live in the rain. We have showers here occasionally. Harold Spence and Collins Cooper came over last night with

a case of beer and a bucket of ice. We drove to a show to see "Pardon My Sarong". We stayed out late for Collins is leaving for Australia soon. If you see right of the parents tell them their boys are doing their part and are in good health.

I am sleepy so I will leave you now and pay a visit to my bed. I slept this afternoon but I am still sleepy.

Love and luck to you with a big good night kiss

Always

Brock

Tolson Brock Thornhill No. 22
5/5/12 12:05 P.M. & 89 H 30° 708
 AMERICAN RED CROSS
978 m. San Francisco, Calif.



Mrs. Jessie Thornhill
P.O. Box 205
Magnolia, Mississippi



Tunbridge, Franklin
21st 1943. SGT 4150208
8pm San Francisco, Calif.
April 16, 1943.

Hullo Darling,

It's a beautiful day. I am well
I am happy I am thinking of you.
I don't want to write a letter - all
I only want you to know that I
love you. If I did want to
write a letter I couldn't for I
am not in the mood. One
thing that is noticeable now
day is Navy versus Army. The
Navy leads 10 to 6 in the first
round. The navy has six movies
with a show every night. The
Army has two movies with a
show twice a week. The Reg

Navy personnel has an Area and
the Army has an Area. We are stopped
by M.P.'s if we all check this
passing. Our transportation won't
even let us have a truck to get
those movies. This place is getting
so civilized for me. There is always
something to interfere with pleasure.

My airplane is still giving me
trouble. I have given it an O.M.T.
and I still have trouble (that
I can't find). Maybe we will have
better luck tomorrow.

Keep your chin up soldiers -
the world will be peaceful
again. I hope to see you soon.
Remember that love was just
I love you
S. Cook

Talmadge B Thornhill
S/Sgt 72nd Bomb. Sq. APO 708
c/o PM San Francisco, Calif
April 16, 1943

Hello Darlings,

It's a beautiful day. I am well. I am happy. I am thinking of you. I don't want to write a letter I only want you to know that I love you. If I did want to write a letter I couldn't for I am not in the mood. One thing that is noticeable now day is Navy vs Army. The Navy leads 10 to 0 in the first round. The Navy has six movies with a show every night. The army has two movies with a show twice a week. The Navy personnel has an area and the Army has an area. We are stopped my M.P.s if we are caught trespassing. Our transportation won't even let us have a truck to go to those movies. This place is getting to civilize for me. There is always something to interfere with pleasure.

My airplane is still giving me trouble. I have given it an overhaul and I still have trouble that I can't find. Mabey we will have better luck tomorrow.

Keep you chins up darlings. This world will be peaceable again. I hope to see you soon. Remember that I love you dearly.

Love

Brock

April 19, 1943

Dear Major Pope
Dear Major Pope
366 Remond Ave
M. C. L. M. U. S. A.
April 19, 1943

White Salmon Ranch Inn
724 Bank Street
R.R. 200 90
Sawtelle, California



Cards 1 & 2

Dearest Brock:

Well & get that long waitin' for letter Saturday.
you spoke as tho you hadn't heard from me for some
time. They're on the way for sure, certainly written.

Mother had letter from Bob. He seems really
happy over trip he took & thrilled over having made
his present distinction. Have you heard from him?
we drove down to Camp yesterday morn. It's really
beautiful there now. Aunt Anna wants to have
family reunion there for your Bob when you come
home. won't that be small? I hope it won't be too far
away. How about on your birthday? think you'll
make it by then? Wish you'd say something.

Keep up your good work in your electrical course
your big brother is really proud of you. You know
that his life "he has left to Electrical service"
for you to read & study. He has lots of books & magazines
you'll enjoy.

We went out Saturday night. First time in April back
west to Klickitat bigger than "Uncle Ruth Cabin".
we really had fun. Then Major had to go out to work
night after we got home (3 A.M.) & worked till 2 P.M.
yesterday eve. He was really tired.

Robert Brock is a mess now. His really getting
fancy now. He makes Sue Pope step around. I
will really have her on the go in couple months.
I'm sure glad to see summer weather gettin' both.
They both love to stay outside. I'm writing this
before cleaning my house up so quick & better
get busy - write soon. with all my love - Rio

V -- MAIL

April 19, 1943

Dearest Brock,

Well I got that long waited for letter on Saturday. You spoke as thought you hadn't heard from me for some time. They're on the way for I've certainly written.

Mother got a letter from Bob. He seemed wonderfully happy over trip he took & thrilled over having [unreadable] his present destination. Have you heard from him?

We drove down to camp yesterday eve. It's really beautiful there now. Aunt Nora wants to have family reunion there for you and Bob when you come home. Won't that be swell? Hope it won't be too far away. How about on your birthday? Think you'll make it by then?? Wish you'd say something.

Keep up your good work in your electrical course. Your big brother is really proud of you. You know that's his life. He has lots of "Electrical Worlds" for you to read and study. He has lots of books and magazines you will enjoy.

We went out Saturday night. First time in couple of months. Went to Kentwood for supper then "Uncle Paul's Cabin". We really had fun. Then Major had to go to work right after we got home (3am) and worked until 2pm yesterday evening. He was really tired.

Robert Brock is a mess now. He really is fussy now. He makes Sue Pope step around. He'll really have her on the go in a couple of months. I'm sure glad to see summer weather for them both. They both love to stay outside. I'm writing this before cleaning my house up so spect I better get busy-write soon.

With all my love, Ava

Post Office Box 1100
 725 Broad Street
 P.O. 7029 Glendale
 San Francisco, California

Dear Grandpa
 Sabine & I
 M.C.P.A. Min
 Apr. 1, 1943

Dearest Grandpa:

April 23, 1943

Here I am beginning another day by getting a note off to you. I'm writing & sipping my coffee - all in one. Must admit my mind isn't functioning very well. Pardon anything that don't make a lot of pretty stiff. I'm more or less busy now. I began my house cleaning yesterday. Did all of house except my bedroom kitchen. Hope to finish them by Friday.

I'm trying to keep me a machine. I must save for tide this summer, help pale things are staying. I had long letter from Bill yesterday. How are you doing by now. He really seems spiffed like he was? I'm looking forward to getting one from you sounding like that. won't be long I'm sure. When isig C. Wish you as do you know?

My husband left for Shasta to be gone till Friday. It's such an awful place to go & hate to see him take to leave home. No place to go - can't stay there.

I'm gonna give mother a permanent sometime this week when they get shaggy heads they say come traveling to me. I could be working all time now. Three steps here begging for help but don't have anyone to have this with. Can't say this to anyone & anyway, I have my hands full right here. Keeping my home free burning, two tile, cream house with two rooms rented, yard & garden to care for. You see why I'm always going in circles. Must dress out this mailed with all my love.

April 21, 1943

Dearest Brock,

Here I am beginning another day by getting a note off to you. I'm writing and sipping my coffee-all in one. Must admit my mind isn't functioning very well so pardon anything that doesn't make sense. I am pretty stiff this morning for I began my house cleaning yesterday. Did all of house except my bedroom and kitchen. Hope to finish them by Friday.

I'm trying to buy me a machine. I must sew for kids this summer. Ready made things are sky hi.

I had long letter from Bob yesterday. I'm sure you've had one by now. He really seems spirited, is he not? I'm looking forward to getting one from you sounding like that. Won't be long I'm sure. When is J.C. with you or do you know?

My husband left for Gloster to be gone till Friday. It's such an awful place to go. I hate to see him have to leave home. He has a home and can't stay there.

I'm gonna give mother a permanent sometime this week. When they get shaggy headed they really come crawling to me. I could be washing all time now. Three shops here begging for help but I don't have anyone to leave kids with. Can't say I am too anxious to anyway. I have my hands full right here "keeping my home fires burning", two kids, 6 room house with two rooms rented, yard and garden to care for. You see why I'm always going in circles. Must close and get this mailed.

With all my love, Sis

Print the complete address in plain black letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use "uppercase, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not sufficient.

No. _____



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

To
Sgt. THOMAS BROCK THORNTON
70th BOMB GROUP (H)
A.F.C. 708. TO PTYMASTER
SAN FRANCISCO.
CAVIT.

From

MRS. ESSIE THORNTON
(Sender's name)

MONROVIA, CALIF.
(Sender's address)

APRIL 22-32

(Date)

Hello Darling. I wonder how you are feeling to night. Your letter by March 24. 35 to day be gone the 1st I had heard from Bob & he has arrived at 952. He is a mixed and happy and am happy for him. Sure that my happiness is not complete for I can't help care for his wife & son. I can't tell you how much I miss you. I can take it and bear very much of you using no brave and fine about it. We got letter from Bob Couple of days ago saying he will come you would feel soon. Also he said we are going to get a break at last it seems. We will have a chance to leave home for 30 day and return home or home for 30 day and report in state for reassignment. Said he was going to take the state for Bill and I feel sure you will feel the same. I do hope you follow soon and can come on together. Am praying real hard Darling. I also got a long letter from Barbara telling me & Bob and Ruth just visit with them. She also told me of Ray having Malaria. No wonder his folks didn't know about Ray. Remember writing me you didn't know who Ray hadn't been writing. Oh I know you haven't told me any & won't you be through & pray it will soon be over. Hope & hadn't written you all this long & write so often & never know what she said or left unread. Come you see mother.

April 22, 43

Hello Darling, (Brock)

I wonder how you are feeling tonight. Your letter of March 30th came today. As you thought I heard from Bob after his arrival at 952. He was thrilled and happy and I'm happy for him. Seems that my happiness can't be complete for I can't rejoice over his good luck for thinking of you. I know darling that you can take it and I am very proud of you being so brave and fine about it. We got a letter from Bob a couple of days ago saying he felt sure you would follow soon. Also he said we are going to get a buck at last it seems. We will have a chance to come home for 30 days and report in states for reassignment. Said he was going to take our state for his and felt sure will feel the same. I do hope you follow soon and can come home together. I'm praying real hard darling. I also got a long letter from Barbara telling me of Bob and Ray's first visit with them. She also told me of Ray's having malaria. No wonder his folks didn't hear from him. Remember writing me you didn't know Ray hadn't been writing. I know you haven't told me any of worst you've been through. I pray it will soon be over. Hope I haven't written you all of this before. I write so often I never know what I've said or left unsaid.

I love you son, Mother

25 April 1943

Happy Easter to all,

Here it is my day to go to church and I didn't go! Well I will go next easter maybe. Any one that has been living as stright a life as I have for the past year shouldn't even have to go to church tho; for its almost impossible to do anything too much out of the way. Its been a most beautiful day here, the sun has been out all day and we have a wonderful sunset over the mountains.

I didn't mention much about the trip in the last letter on account of I was in a hurry and couldn't concentrate on a thing. Fact is I was still running around like a wild man not knowing what I might do next. For the trip it was very quite and uneventful. Of course I did receive the last day there were a lot of old Hawaii. I didn't get to see Brock the last two or three days I was there and the reason he didn't mention me leaving probably was that he didn't even know I had left. I don't think he mind me leaving him much, after all I was down there long before he was. I wouldn't worry about him for he is perfectly safe and staying there don't seem to bother him at all. However I think he will be comming back shortly (just a guess of course). I haven't heard from him since I arrived but I realize how hard it is to write letters there. I have written him a couple of time and will probably write in a couple of days.

Since I arrived here I have been on the go most all the time. As I said before I was at Wall's the first night but hadn't been back. I just don't get any kick out of going up there - maybe if they would bring some of that good beer or rum out I would get a bigger kick out of it! Loh! I have been up at Emerson's twice and had a marvelous time. He insisted on me coming up to day but didn't feel up to par therefore I didn't go. I also was up at Mrs Cady's a couple of times and enjoyed it immensely. Mr. Cady had a quart of Rum she was saving for me and we drank rumcocke and were they good! Mrs Emerson had a quart of Bourbon which was very good also. I meet a Mrs Springs the other day and was down to see her one night. She is a very nice person also and told me to come back any time I could get off. I am just waiting until I met one with a daughter about twenty years old and then they will have to run me off.

I had lots of fun this afternoon. A couple of the boys and myself went bowling this after noon and they had been bowling quite some time and was pretty good. For me I had never had a bowling ball in my hand and I went down and played three games with them. By the way I won the third game which did me lots of good. It seems that I was very lucky or something for everytime I threw the ball I made a strike which is pretty good. I like the game lots and too it good excrise. I have been so sore the last few days I could hardly walk. We were out playing ball and of course I am not use to too much excrise.

Ray and I are going to the big Island tomorrow for five days. I expect to have a darn good time, and too I have wanted to go over there since I arrive here. We have several addresses so we shouldn't have too much trouble. They kinda caught me short on money but I have 100. and in case I need more I can borrow it.

I received a V-Mail from you to day and sounds as tho you are going to have plenty to eat. Its a darn good idea and having the farm you should have plenty of everything. Is the negro rasing any hogs, calves or anything for you. I think You should make some kind of arrangement with him so as to have plenty of meat. There is no excuse for anyone with a farm being with out plenty to eat and in time to come I imagine you will need everything you can raise there.

By the way speaking of the V-Mail I had rather you write letters for that thing is very discouraging. Too it seems that the other comes just as fast. I never did like the damn things anyway. If you hadn't got perfect light you can't read it. Another thing time you get started reading you are all thru (through). Speaking of Grandmothers birthday, I doubt if I will be there by then but its nothing I would enjoy more than being there. Then I could see everyone at one time and know it could be lots of fun. Well maybe we can work something similar to that because I am not going to have time to run all over the country seeing everyone. By the way how is the girl situation there. Hope there are plenty of them!

Had a letter from Ava the other day and she seems to be rather busy. Glad to hear the kids are well again. I wrote a letter to Hilda yesterday congratuleting her. I suppose she is married by now, at least I hope she is before I get home.

I didn't know I was so short of clothes until I got here and started buying shoes uniforms and etc. It cost so darn much to have them cleaned and pressed. I don't mind tho as long as I don't have to do it myself.

I have one more letter I have to write to night so will see you later. Give my love to all.

Love

Bob

25 April 1943

Happy Easter to all,

Here it is my day to go to church and I didn't go! Well I will go next easter maybe. Any one that has been living as stright a life as I have for the past year shouldn't even have to go to church tho; for its almost impossible to do anything too much out of the way. Its been a most beautiful day here, the sun has been out all day and we have a wonderful sunset over the mountains.

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I have one more letter I have to write to night so will see you later. Give my love to all.

Love

Bob

Dear friends and family - we hope you are well and happy, and your names continue in the upper

884 1/2 Long Branch Rd.
725 Bond Street
A.P.O. 703
San Francisco, California

(COMBO'S STAMP)

Miss Major Log
366 Pebble Ave
McCook, Miss
April 24, 1943

Apr. 26, '43

Dear Brook:

Well here another week in the making, the day after Easter & a kinda let down feeling. we spent right 1 day at mothers. Had a real quite peaceful day all her burdens were gone but us Bob so we had it all to our self. See Carol had big Easter.

I gave Carol a permanent in tip ends of her hair - took Bob & Brook to barber shop for his first hair cut. They both look sweet. Want to get a snapshot of both.

Major left for Shreveport Friday by the way down the grand process of a new singer sewing machine. Seems like a dream come true for the wanted one for so so long. Mother wants one & I hope shall trade her in on a new one for they are Honey's. write and encourage her to do so. In gonna happen inevitably. I just had to have one & made my 2 younger ones summer clothes. Clothes clothes are okay he ready made & I can make them sunsuit out of shapes.

Bob had two nice long letters from Bob himself arrived here but he's really going around in circles. He's appealing you to join him soon.

Must close as I'm getting my house in one more mess. Will write again soon Honey you as always yours & sis ~

April 26, 1943

Dearest Brock,

Well here's another week in the making, the day after Easter & a kinda let down feeling. We spent night and day at mothers. Had a real quiet peaceful day all he boarders were gone but Mr. Bob so we had it all to ourself. Sue Carol had big Easter.

I gave Sue Carol a permanent in tip ends of her hair-took Robert Brock to barber shop for his first haircut. They both look sweet. Want to get a snapshot of both.

Major left for Gloster. Be gone till Friday. By the way I'm the proud possessor of a new singer sewing machine. Seems like a dream come true for I've wanted one for so so long. Mother wants one. I hope she'll trade hers in on a new one for they are honeys. Write and encourage her to do so. I'm going to keep on insisting. I just had to have one to make my youngsters some summer clothes. Children's clothes are sky hi ready made & I can make them sun suits out of scraps.

[unreadable] had two nice long letters from Bob since he arrived. Gee but he's really going around in circles. He's expecting you to join him soon.

Must close and start digging. My house in one more mess. Will write again soon.

I love you as always, your Sis

Print the complete address in plain block letters in the space below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. _____



(CENSOR'S STAMP)

S/Sgt. T. B THORNHILL
7212 BIRDS G KOP. (H)
A.P.O. 70059 PISTONMASTER
SAN FRANCISCO
(4bit)

From

MRS BESSIE THORNTON

Address above

MAGNOLIA 12155

Address below

BIX 200-

APR. 16 26 43

Date

My darling and I mean my darling. How I would like to get hold of you to night & in forcing myself to think it won't be long till you before you journey back toward home and there that looks your beauty & that a kiss from Bob to day. He had been on a three day pass and had a wonderful time. said he had written you but hadn't heard from you yet. Barbara just called and told me of a letter she had received from you. You must not have known that Bob told me of the plane of leaders. He did right in telling me and I went to do it. Some of them will be worried yet for land yet that wouldnt be as bad as not hearing from you and not knowing why. If you didn't fail to come I'd fear you had jungle or malnutrition or some thing else awful tell me every thing here. Remember I told you that I had a young wife and son letting with me. To day I ask what the Col. brother A.B.O. is and she said 715. He is 26 or 27 & is of his Col. Can't think of his name but will ask again. We bought a new Singer Sewing Machine last week. It's a heavy and made me want the weighty ball. The man came to see me to day, offered me what what I paid for my machine 18 or 19 years ago. To make a long story short. I paid him my old money and \$5.00 down payment. Will pay balance monthly by next another machine.

I'm afraid you will find your baby sister very pale. I hope when you come home Bob spoke of the little blonde I have with me and she took a big try when she heard it. She has all the time for the new and old ones. Your mother

VIA MAIL

in all places for the new and old ones. Your mother

April 26, 43

My Darling, (Brock)

And I mean my darling. How I would love to get hold of you tonight. I'm forcing myself to think it won't be long till you begin your journey back toward home and those that love you dearly.

Got a letter from Bob today. He has been on a three day pass and had a wonderful time. Said he had written you but hadn't heard from you, but Barbara just called and told him of a letter she had received. Son, you might not have known that Bob told me of his plans of leaving. He did right in telling me and I want you to do the same. Of course I'll be worried till you land yet that wouldn't be as bad as not hearing from you and not knowing why. If your letters fail to come I'd fear you had Jungle or Malaria Fever or something else awful. Tell me everything dear.

Remember I told you that I had a Major's wife and son eating with me. Today I asked what his Col. brother's APO is and she said 708. He's in the 26 or 29 division of the air corp. Can't think of his name but will ask again.

Ava bought a new singer sewing machine last week. It's a honey and made me want one mighty bad. The man came to see me today; offered me what I paid for my machine 18 or 19 years ago. To make a long story short, I traded. Gave my old machine and \$15.08 down payment. Will pay balance monthly till I need another machine.

I'm afraid you will find your baby sister very jealous when you come home. Bob spoke of the little blond I have with me and she took a big cry when she read it
[unreadable] Hugs and sweet dreams, your mother

Miss Muriel Rose
Sibley Ranch Co.
McCloud, Calif.
April 27, 1943

[DRAFT]

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Dearest One:

April 27, 1943
11:30 P.M.

Am passing my head off but still trying to write you before go to bed. Am awfully tired for some unknown reason. At night after put kids to bed is my one & only chance to write. Then I can never think of any news.

We're all well & begining to lay. Saw Mom this morning a while. She went to Summit for baby chicks. I dredged up with her.

Am sewing up a storm with my machine and enjoying it. Oh boy.

It's not summer time here now. Was chilly for so long.

In still window Major is in bluster. I gave B. Jean a permanent yesterday eve and plan to give Mother one later in week. Have Sue one last week.

I had Bob's letter written 19th this morn. He has written you his. Sure he really seems to be up in air. See the next? Seen any more of Colline & Harold? I know you were glad to see them. Good night sweet heart. I must go to bed. I love you darling. SIS

[REDOER'S STAMP]

April 27, 1943

Dearest Ones,

I'm yawning my head off but still determined to write you before I go to bed. I'm awfully tired for some unknown reason. At night after put the kids to bed is my one & only chance to write. Then I can never think of any news.

We're all well and keeping busy. Saw mom this morning a while. She went to Summit for baby chicks. I rode up with her.

I'm sewing up a storm with my machine. Am I enjoying it.

It's real summertime here now. Was chilly for so long.

I'm still a widow. Major's in Gloster.

I gave B. Jean a permanent yesterday. Plan to give mother one later in the week. Gave sue one last week.

Had Bob's letter written 19th this morn. He has written you I'm sure. He really seems to be up in air. Does he not? Seen anymore of Collins and Harold? I know you were glad to see them. Good night sweetheart, must go to bed.

I love you darling, Sis

April 25, 1943

Dear Brock:

The letter I scribbled last night didn't make sense. I'm trying again in early morning while I big my coffee.

Waking up this morning to shop for house coat & some pretty wear for graduation. Shopped a few days. I hope to find a nice one for her. I have a baby gift to get for Milba & E. B.'s wife if the two youngsters will hurry up & make their arrival. Milba came by to see me yesterday evening. She's looking small & full fine. Expecting anything now. Uncle Ray has new nice or regular before he arrives. Milba said J. C. was with him & Bob. I thought he was to stay with you during & get an older build on side of your yard that is right to an old building. Am sure having a time. Can't get material her ladder does. I'll be using it myself.

You should see Label & Brock now. I cut orange half circles & glue to them. His barrel in it up to his neck. He really goes for it. He eats anything & sticks his mouth.

I must try to get up to see uncle Bob this morning also. Will be going home without my seeing him again.

James Little has been physically deferred twice a month in his back. Guess he's definitely out now, after his 4th. Major affects another in classification soon. I understand you are hard work & know, knowing you soon. Love as always. Your Leo

2/27/43 Long Beach 11 a.m. 1.12
to Dr. R. L. Brock
D.P.O. 70296 Postmaster
San Francisco California

Mr. M. G. Pope

Box 12626
Long Beach

McCook Mine

April 25 / 1943

RECORDED STAMP

April 28, 1943

Dearest Brock,

The letter I scribbled last night didn't make sense. I'm trying again in early morn while I sip my coffee.

I'm going up town this morning to shop for a housecoat to give Betty Marie for graduation. She's such a sweet kid. I hope to find a nice one for her. I have a baby gift to get for Melba & S.G.'s wife if the two youngsters will hurry up and make their arrival. Melba came by to see me two days ago. She is looking swell and feels fine. Expecting any day now. Guess Ray will have new niece or nephew by time he arrives. Melba said J.C. was with he and Bob. I thought he was to stay with you.

I'm trying to get an arbor built on side of my yard that is next to an old building. I'm sure having a time. Can't get material for arbor. Guess I'll be doing it myself.

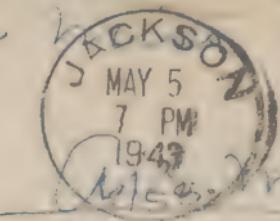
You should see Robert Brock now. I cut orange half in two and gave it to him. He's [unreadable] in it up to his eyes. He really goes for it. He eats anything I stick in his mouth.

I must try to get up and see Uncle Bud this morning also. He'll be going home without my seeing him again.

James Bettle has been physically deferred twice. A sink in his back. Guess he's definitely out now after two tries. Major expects another reclassification soon. I'm anxious to know verdict. Yes or [unreadable] to know. Be seeing you soon.

Love as always, Your Sis

Irons 4073 Redwing
Jackson



8/8/43 J. B. Thornhill (7002200)

72nd Bomb Sq
8th Replacement Wing
APO 708 Salt Lake City, Utah

From

Jewell

(M)

5-4-43

My dear - I am going
to try this by Air Mail &
it had better go to you &
not back to me.

Received your letter written
on the 19th and I hope not
to write you this same
address any more, now.
Your wings will be bring-
ing you in this direction
I have been sick with
a cold and you should
have heard me grunt one
afternoon I was alone
for a while and I turned
on all the noise that
go with grunting & it

helped a lot try it something
when you feel bad.

Nancy is a handsome
girl to say, she has the
mumps on one side and
her face looks a little
crooked, last night she
woke up & looked in
the mirror & got frightened
at her self.

We are having a flower
show to day, wish you
see all the beautiful blooms

Those tires are waiting
and a yearning for you
and Bob. is hoping on
you can't get here too quick
all the folks are fine
Sweetest love from
Grand Moma

5-4-43

My Dear,

I am going to try this by air mail & it had better go to you & not back to me.

Received your letter written on the 19th and I hope not to write you this same address any more. Hope your wings will be bringing you in this direction.

I have been sick with a cold and you should have heard me grunt, one afternoon I was alone for a while and I turned on all the noise that goes with grunting and it helped a lot. Try it sometime when you feel bad.

Nancy is a handsome girl today. He has the mumps on one side and her face looks a little crooked. Last night she woke up & looked in the mirror & got frightened at herself.

We are having a flower show today. Wish you could see all the beautiful blooms

Those tires are waiting and yearning for you and Bob, so hurry on you can't get here too quick. All the folks are fine.

Sweetest love from

Aunt Dora

Magnolia Miss
Sunday.

Hello Sweetie Pie.

I should have written you before but when I do a little - explaining I'm late. You will understand the delay. First as you know your two~~s~~ brother is here which is almost excuse enough but I have more yet. Remember I told you that Mrs. Wasn't acting right and that I felt something was brewing. I was right. She left me the day before Bob arrived. She went to Passigardia - that's not spelled right ~~that~~ to work. Will get \$21.00 a day. Well as surely no one can blame her. I haven't been able to find any kind of help but well try again more next week. This would happen to me when my boy comes home.

Your letter to Bob came last night and it spelled me through and through. kept pulling wires and was red-eyed and got the best you can for Bob by you and helped get the best you can for Bob by you. The most important thing is staying together. And getting your other 15 days. I'm not together. I don't think Bob is. He's eager to get back in same spot with you - in fact he said he'd rather not. Don't think he likes Ray friend and ways too much. Ray girl. Bertwin sister and their father met him at the train. I think every body was a wee bit disappointed for it wasn't very romantic. He walked up and said "Hi" and she said "Hi" - that's all. Now wasn't that fast?

So you get a big kick out of my letter because I was expecting you in July. Please tell me who was responsible for those thoughts - None other than you my dear. I'm still expecting you in

July 1st or 2nd. - Both of you and that when we are
going to have you - Cook or no cook or boarding
house for that matter.

Bob seems to be having a real nice time etc.
Show his upset over me having no help. You are
right he's dated Doris, and like you think she
a sweet date. He dated the Cook girl in Waukesha
the night and last night he dated the Brunelle. Last
I introduced you to in the house. His old book
letter . . . so you see she's alright too. Then Re-
fined. I met them two to night - So some
fun been while about helping me since Petty hit.
We went to Jackson Friday afternoon and came
back yesterday - A. Major. Bob and Eddie had
in the Buff to dance and had a swell time. Bob
said Edina was a good date. in fact he said
that they were cousins. She must have been all
right for they took A. Major home at twelve and
they came in at three. By the way. Edina said the
boys that went out with you all that night were mad
jealous. If you see why they acted so dumb. Soil
very it, and because you took them home. for they
all wanted to get rid of them. That's gratitude isn't
it?

We are having Mammas birthday dinner next
Sun so Bob will get to see every body. Wish you
could be here. We have his chicken fix and dance
about Friday night I guess.

Petty Jean and Mary Ellen are about to get together
again. Their Von Dorn friends came last night and
back this afternoon. They have a good car which
makes it nice.

Must stop and mail this. Hope we get another letter
soon. I love you. Mother (over)

The Coopers got a wire on the 5th that Collins
is missing. They didn't hear anything more
so I am afraid his dad. Your best friend to
you & Mr Cooper. See you.

Magnolia, Miss
June 1943*

Hello Sweetie Pie (Brock)

I should have written you before now But when I so a little explaining I'm sure you will understand the delay. First as you know your twin brother is here which is almost excuse enough but I have more yet. Remember I told you that Polly wasn't acting right and that I felt something was brewing. I was right. She left me the day before Bob arrived. She went to Pascagoula to work. Will get \$21.00 and meals a week so surely now one can blame her. I haven't been able to find any kind of help but will try some more next week. This would happen to me when my boys come home.

Your letter to Bob came last night and it thrilled me through and through. Keep pulling wires and [unreadable] red tape and get the best you can for both of you. The most important thing is staying together and getting your other 15 days furlough together. I don't think Bob is over eager to get Ray in same Sqd. with you. In fact, he's said he'd rather not. Don't think he likes Ray's friends and ways too much. Ray's girls, her twin sister and their father met hem at the train. I think everybody was a wee bit disappointed for it wasn't very Romantic. He walked up and said "Hi" and she said "Hi" and that's all. Now wasn't that feat?

So you got a big kick out of my letter because I was expecting you in July. Please tell me who was responsible for those thoughts- none other than you, my dear. I'm still expecting you in July or Aug. - both of you and that's when we are going to have fun. Cook or no cook or boarding house for that matter.

Bob seems to be having a real nice time even tho he's upset over me having no help. You are right he's dated Doris and like you think she's a sweet date. He dated the Cook girl in McComb one night and last night he dated the brunette that I introduced you to in the bank. He's with her this afternoon so guess she's alright too. Think he plans to meet Doris' bus tonight tho. She sure has been swell about helping me since Polly left. We went to Jackson Friday afternoon and came back yesterday. Ava, Major, Bob and Edwina went on the [unreadable] to dance and had a swell time. Bob said Edwina was a good date in fact he denied that they were cousins. She must have been alright for they took Ava and Major home at twelve and they came in at three. By the way, Edwina said the boys that went out with you all that night was mad jealous of you is why they acted so dumb. Said the got mad because you took them home for they thought you wanted to get rid of them. That's gratitude isn't it.

We are having mama's birthday dinner next Sun. so Bob will get to see everybody. Wish you could be here. Will have his Chicken fry and dance about Friday night I guess.

Betty Jean and Mary Ellen are about to get together again. Their Van Dorn friends came last night and back this afternoon. They have a good car which makes it nice.

Must stop and mail this. Hope we get another letter soon.

I love you, mother.

The Coopers got a wire on the 5th that Collins is missing. They haven't heard anything more so am afraid he's dead. Your visit meant so much t Mrs.. Cooper.

Love, Mother

*This letter mentions Susan Holmes' birthday which is in June

2667 Tantalus Dr.
Honolulu 21, T. H.
June 1, 1943

Dear Brock,

My, but it seems ages since I've heard from you and surely it has been. I suppose they keep you very busy since you are being transferred and going ~~going~~ home on furlough. You are probably home now and that is why I am taking a chance of catching you there. I was going to wait for you to write to me because naturally I don't know for sure just where you are, but no letter has come and I know that your Mother will forward it for me.

We are all pretty well here. Auntie had a couple of heart spells and wasn't so well for a while, but is better now. Mother is feeling better and more her old self again although she still has to be careful. She has a little trouble in walking yet. Daddy keeps pretty well and is at present working on his moose whistle. It is too cute to hear him--he goes to the piano to tune it out and see how he is coming along. It is good that he has something to amuse himself.

Dougie had his fifth birthday Saturday and this year he had a party. Last year it was Midway time if you will remember and we were all very much on the alert, so no party. Daddy went out with Garton the night before Dougie's birthday and he said that Muffie had a wonderful time and it might just as well have been her party. She is certainly adorable and you would love her to pieces if you could see her now. She talks a great deal, her hair is very blonde and long, and her eyes are the biggest blue ones you ever did see.

Garton has a birthday tomorrow and the following day is David's fourteenth birthday. I can't get over how he is growing up. Garton is now a Lieut. Commander. He is in on duty every third night now.

Did I tell you about our rabbits and ducks? I think I did in my last letter to you, but that letter has gone to where you were before and I don't know just when you will get it. Anyway, Garton is raising rabbits and ducks. We have rabbit hutches behind the garage. This morning I found a little dove with a broken wing and he couldn't fly. I put him in with the ducklings because then the mongoose and rats won't get at him.

I am beginning to help down at Church in the Service men's dining-room again for they do need help and it is one way in which I can offer my services on Fridays. The open houses at the Bishop's house are every Wednesday and the first Saturday of each month. I am still teaching dancing and doing various things of that sort, so I really don't get to many of the "Flying Squadron" dances. I do enough during the week to make up for it though even though I love dancing and should love to attend them all. Central Union Church gives dances for Defense Workers once a month and I go with several of my girl friends to those. They are really fun for we wear long evening dresses, they wear their tuxedoes, and we have a dinner-dance until way after blackout. The orchestra is up on the stage and they throw spot lights around the room while the candles glow merrily on the tables. It almost seems like the day before the war.

Tell Bob that I received another letter from Betty a month or two back and

she still has not mentioned being engaged to that Captain. I finally wrote to her and asked her what the score was because Col. Farnum told me that she had written to him that she was engaged. By the way, your Col. is back where he used to be--you know where Bob was and you were before the war.

I happened to mention to Mother that I was writing a letter to you, and she said that she is writing one too! Neither of us knew that the other was writing so something must have inspired us to write today at the same time.

I wish that you would let me know when you receive my letter which has gone to your old address. You see, I explained some things in that letter about my not taking matters for granted and some other things that you will understand when you get it.

How is everybody at home? Your Mother, Bettye Jean, and Ava and family? What fun it must be for you to see your new little nephew and Sue Carol too. I am wondering where you will be sent after your furlough. Do you think that you can manage somehow, as you did before, about where you will be? It is always a great comfort to know if it is a fairly safe place. I saw in the paper where an old class-mate of mine was killed in action in Tunisia, and now we have learned that Brewster Morgan (Dr. Morgan's son) is missing. He was an ace pilot in England and had just completed his 50th bombing mission. I knew him when I was in school and he used to come to some of my parties. He belonged to the same Church and his Mother used to be my Sunday School teacher. I hate to hear of those things and he was such a wonderful fellow.

There doesn't seem to be much else to talk about. Please do write and give us the latest news and tell us how the old home town looks to you. Wherever you may go, whatever you do, you know that we are thinking of you and wish the very best of luck in every way. The same goes for Bob and tell him to write for we enjoy his letters very much and want to know how he is making out.

Love,

Barbara

P.S.

Be sure to write Honolulu 21 because we are divided up into districts now to expedite delivery.

B.A.

2667 Tantalus Drive, Honolulu
June 1, 1943

My dear Brock:

You can imagine how very distressed I was to learn that you had been right off the course, & I will let you add to all your pleasure our voice over the telephone. I wonder if you have time now to see our house out on the hillside. I was born heliocon voice & am thankful that you were out of that sort of it on our side, and sorrow that you had to pass us right by.

Barbara has written at least two letters to go to the mainland & I had written one that went down to the boat on the way, and will be sending another today reaching you - or ever.

If you don't, we would look up a line as soon as you reached the mainland and eagerly looked for you & we have been waiting and waiting for your coat mail, but as yet we have not had word from you or Bob. I hope you are as very much for the same reason you reached the mainland.

I wonder if our two boys have seen what you took up. I'll try to make a nice package and for Sue Carol, and Betty Jean will be coming down soon.

It is funny, but just when Barbara came into the room to let some visitors over for tea, I took out my letter to Brock and said, "I thought I would write a letter to Brock," and was surprised when I said that was to whom this letter is going. She had not written to anyone in weeks, and when Brock got the impression that it was from the new house,

It is hard for me to go to the beach to write now because I feel in Eustonton is neglected. At times I feel very easily since my accident, and the doctor says I must constantly comanned my knee down and think one more injection will do it. I am so afraid I have to keep it balanced all the time, so it is a hard life in bed. It is not good to get out of bed to either Barbara or me such as possible, and then I must be afraid of getting up and have a fall again.

is writing. It is hard lying down.

Life goes on here very much as it did when you were here today, so one has to carry a gas mask with some sulphur the medicine powder. That is one big "blight".

There is a British hotel at Chard, and a large house, mostly a residence, but a place to go to. There just outside Chard is the "Fighting Gull", but now that we have gone I suppose none there expect the miners. They spend the day and have dinner with Mr. Bell Bob the man named Al who was here (and who had just returned from below) the night he saw the fire returned to the mainland. Harry (the other one) is the son of an American Minister and is a very fine boy. He is tall & well looking, but like a
and says. This is a terrible life when they come, we have a good picnic and they go. Sometimes they win and the body goes down if but sometimes they are sent to jail or their letters are a long time getting out. I received quite a number of Mother Day cards which I value a great deal.

your thoughtful sister was good to you
and me too and I appreciated it very
much.

Ridiron is now a business man and
told me it is not everyone who has the
courage to cut his hair
short. He has the grace down many

Please drop us a line. I can just
picture your new modern residence at Hilo
for twice the same again & which you could
take a number of steps further and stand up.

Please give my love to your mother and
brother.

With Aloha our

Cain here.

P.S. Will you please add 21 to the address Honolulu
as we suppose Honolulu has become so thickly
populated that they have had to divide all the
miles to form a chain of miles.

2667 Tantalus Dr

Hololulu

June 1, 1943

My Dear Brock,

You can imagine how very disappointed I was to learn that you had been right off the harbor, and we had not been able to see you or hear your voice over the telephone. I wonder if you were able to see our house up on the hillside. I was torn between rejoicing and thankfulness that you were out of that awful dangerous place and sorrow that you had to pass us right by.

Barbara had written at least two letters to you down there and I had written one that must have passed you on the way and will be a very long time reaching you – if ever.

We both thought you would drop us a line as soon as you reached the mainland and earlierly looked for your familiar hand writing amongst our coastmail, but so far we have had no word from you or Bob. Some way you seem so very much further away since you reached the mainland.

I wonder if you two boys have seen little Robert Brock yet. I'll bet you make a bee line for him and fro Sue Carol, and Betty Jean will be a big drawing card also.

It is funny, but just now Barbara came into the room to get some writing paper from the desk, and said "I thought I would write a letter to Brock", and was surprised when I said that was to whom this letter is going. I havce not written to any9on for weeks an we both get the inspiration to write to you the same hour.

It is hard for one to settle down to write. My poor daughter in Evanston is neglected at times. I tire very easily since my accident and the doctor has ot entirely conquered my knee trouble. I think one more injection will do it, but in the mewan while I have to keep it stretched out by lying down and it is hard to write in bed. I do get about quite a bit, but I try to lighten Barbara's burden so much as possible, and then I must lie down instead of sitting up as I am now doing and writing letters is hard lying down.

Life goes on here very much as it did when you were here only no one has to carry a gas mask any more – not even the service boys. That is one big relief.

I still try to bring a little recreation and home life to as many of the deserving boys as I can, especially those just returned from the fighting front, but now that you boys have gone I seldom have them spend the night. They spend the day and have dinner with us. Tell Bob the man named Al who was here (and had just returned from below) the night he was there has returned to the mainland. Harry (the other one) is the son of an Episcopalian minister and is a vry fine boy. He is still here but expecting orders any day. This is a terrible life where they come and become good friends and they go. Sometimes they write and are very good about it, but sometimes thay are sent

to places where letters are a long time getting out. I received quite a number of Mother's Day cards which I value very much. Your thoughtful sister was good enough to send me one and I appreciated it very much.

Garton is now a Lieutenant Commander. I told him it is not everyone who has a Lieutenant Commander to cut his lawn for him. He keeps the grass down nicely.

Do please drop us a line. I can just picture you dear Mother's happiness at having her twin boys home again. I wish you could take a family group picture and send us.

Please give my love to your Mother and sister,

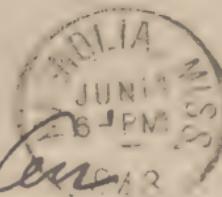
With Aloha Nui,

Edith Wall

PS- Will you please add 21 to the address Honolulu as to the envelope. Honolulu has become so thickly populated that they have had to divide us into sections to facilitate delivery of mail.

Dear, Harry
1205 Mesilla Ave

Via Air



S/Sgt Palmae Brook Thorndike

Prost. M. Sydn.

Salt Lake City - A. S.

Utah

Magnolia Miss.
Wed. night

Hello darlings:

"All quite on the Westernfront so I see try writing you. Come to think of it, it's almost too quite to be comfortable - Ask and babies are gone. Betty Jean and Bert have gone to about and my "first" has gone to his room and not one person can I hear. He has an argument with my self over how to spell Read).

I guess I had better explain my last. Yes Mr. Bathua from State has been here with us for three weeks from Tues. to Sat. and we certainly be glad when he checks out for a while. He's having the Stevens out out & all taking in their is a bother and the bus stopping in and out at all hours of the day. Starts taking his drinks at five when he takes off the job and big rubber toe in a long talker mouth. I left Betty Jean and Bert to fly supper for him yesterday and went to the store. When I got back they had dinner and I heard for how until they were exhausted. They said he had been feeling the

machine for two hours and had
been dancing all the time

Wish you could have met Bert. She
worked in one of the Cabaret Cen-
trals days after you left. She staying with
her sister who is the wife the being
part owner so they are leading well
freedom in Paris. Be sure will over-
see her and she loves the country
next summer to work for her. They
are back now, is a - woman that

Mike and I made out to the farm
after O.P. got home from school
yesterday. The house is covered and
looks real well. They are re-
latively good & the books being
stamped. Mr. Runking wouldn't offer
me but \$500 for the house but
he said that he thought he could
sell it to them for \$800. I have
told him just to wait it
out so I left word for him to sell
it to day. Roger he takes it for it
and like the down truck ~~and~~
is going to last me not over 3 or 4
months. We are not going to see if
we could buy me a car under at
wholesale which will be much cheaper.
The thing happens in about 3 months
so I'll go to the car lot and get
a car. We are not going to do anything

his consent and the lawyer
has a clause in the ~~law~~ that will
keep him from paying the damage
and I'd have to tell him so and
ask him for it. She's looking for the
government in Alaska too. I'll just
forget the whole thing & fix the fence
as I did once & if I
can fix it. This is
the last and I hope the
last place to look to for help
any more.

The advance was having a big
banquet and dance here to night.
Looks now like it might be cold and
rainy - which will be bad for the
balcony in the picnic shed. They
right back they had added a taught
in my wire again during noon he

Miss Chamberlain wanted P. J. and
they said she was a girl you like
to see a girl in the show play and don't
sound and a mighty good P. J.
Would have missed her for dinner and
wrote the note down so she didn't
see it. And the people have had
a great time too on two or
three days. P. J. got three
visitors today & I told her to see
them. I told her to go in with them. I'm glad to know she

was asked to take a part and she was
glad that she didn't take it. Bob & I are
having trouble with her history so
we see she can get sympathy from you.
The one thing she ever studies at
home is not thinking enough about
her studies which will be much help
to her if ever she goes to College.

Am enclosing the Wells letter & for

Bob's & Tom's sake and Orlie
should do so soon. Notice in
my letter she said she was going
to do and please you from the
writing down. Yours truly
Bea Smith, Mrs. Bea Smith

Send my regards to
Orlie.

Magnolia, Miss
June 13, 1943

Hello Darlings,

All's quite on the western front so I'll try writing you. Come to think of it, it's almost too quiet to be comfortable. Ava and babies are gone. Betty Jean and Bert have gone to a show and my "pest" has gone to his room and not one sound can I hear (ha had an argument with myself over how to spell hear)

Guess I had better explain my pest. He's Mr. Bathia from state office. He's been with us for three weeks from Tues. to Sat. and I'll certainly be glad when he checks out for a while. He's having the willows cut out of the lake and working a carpenter on repairs. Cooking for him is a bother and then his popping in and out at all hours of the day. Starts taking his drinks at five when he takes off the job and by supper he's in a very talkative mood. I left Betty Jean and Bert to fix supper for him yesterday and I went to the show. When I got back they had danced and performed for him until they were exhausted. The said he had been feeding the machine for two hours and had them dancing all the time.

Wish you could have met Bert. She moved in one of the cabins couple of days after you left. She is staying with her sister who's a Lt.'s wife. He's being sent across so they are leaving next Tuesday for home. We sure will miss her and she [unreadable] she's coming back next summer to work for me. They all think Miss. is a wonderful state.

Vickie and I drove out to the farm after B.J. got home from school yesterday. The house is covered and looks right well. The negros are certainly proud of the leaks being stopped. Mrs. Rushing wouldn't offer me but \$65.00 for the house but Eli said that he thought he could sell it to Alfons for \$80.00. I came by to see Alfon but he wasn't at home so I left word for him to call me today. Hope he takes it for it looks like the darn truck fender is going to cost me \$45 or \$50.

I wrote Ava to ask Slim to see if he could buy me a new fender at wholesale which will be much cheaper. Everything happens to me. I call my suit off. Mr. White said that his daughter was driving his car without his consent and the layer says there's a clause in the law that would exempt him from paying the damage and I'd have to catch her in Miss. and sue her. She's working for the government in Alaska so I'll just forget the whole thing, fix the fender I bent and drive mine as it is until I can fix it. There's no justice in the law and I hope I never have to look to it for help any more.

The ordinance company are having a big barbecue and dance here tonight. Looks now like it might be cold and raining which will be bad for the barbecue in the picnic shed. The might wish they had ordered a banquet in my nice warm dining room Ha!

Mrs. Shambeanger wanted B.J. and Betty Dial (the little girl you liked Brock) to have a part in the class play but they declined and I'm mighty glad. B.J. would have missed ball practice (and that's the real reason why she didn't want it) and they would have had to go in every night for two or three weeks to practice. It's three miles to Betty's so Ava or I one or Mrs. Dial would have had to gone in with them. I'm glad to know she was asked to take a part and I'm also glad that she didn't take it. Bob, B.J. is having trouble with her history so guess she can get sympathy from you. It's the only thing she ever studies at home yet make the worst grades. I'm afraid she's not thinking enough about her studies which won't be much help to her if or when she goes to college.

Am enclosing Mrs. Wall's letters. If you all haven't written she and Barbara you should do so soon. Notice in my letter she said she was going to offer and release you from the burden of writing them.

Be sweet, sweet dreams,

I love you an awful lot, Mother

Magnolia House
Wed. night

Hello Sweetie Pie.

No doubt you think I've let you down in the letter question. The two letters I wrote you are the only two I've written since you came home ~~which~~. But since both of my boys are away again letters must be written am I right? Soon I'll try to write the Camp and Wall.

Boss left last night so will soon be with you. Am very anxious to know where you will be located and am prayin' it won't be too far. Boss stay at home like yours wasn't all I wanted it to be yet it was wonderful to me. That was one time I had planned to take a vacation but I did every thing but think Boss had a right nice time between his blond and Brunette. By the way Doris said tell you, just don't send her next letter by "Pony Express". You know that you were writing her and I told her and she letter hasn't arrived.

Guess Mr. Will see you before you get this but he might not think to tell you about ~~the~~ Collins Cooper being ^{reported} missing on the 5th of this past month. His brother was

Reading a letter she recd that was written
five days before he was reported missing and
she had a heart attack and died couple days
later. It was an awful thing to happen.

Betty Marie married the Walker boy Sat. night
Don't think I'll loose any more sleep over her
dies leaving for residence the 29th

Mamma stayed with me till to night.
I picked and she and I shelled five ears
of snowed butter beans. Yesterday I put them
in my locker. Got a letter from the Negro
to day telling me the beans and butter beans
on the place are ready to can. Don't know
how I'm going to Maria - to go out to can
but must try to find some way.

Girls seem plentiful and easy to meet
there. Have you decided which one you want
a second date with? Bob. We take care of some
of them for you. but Ray. Can't go out with
one. right now since he's engaged. Imptly.

No news dear. so I'll get some short
sleep for tomorrow will be another on
of those days. You will write me just as
soon as you find out any thing about
you.

Good night and what dreams thy have
Love mother

Magnolia, Miss
Early June 1943*

Hello Sweetie Pie,

No doubt you think I've let you down in the letter question. The two letters I wrote you are the only two I've written since you came home. But since both of my boys are away again letters must be written. Am I right! Soon I'll try to write the Cady's and Wall's!

Bob left last night so will soon be with you. Am very anxious to know where you will be located and am praying it won't be too far. Bob's stay at home, like yours wasn't all I wanted it to be yet it was wonderful to me. That was one time I had planned to take a vacation but I did everything but. Think Bob had a right nice time between his blond and brunette. By the way, Doris said tell you please don't send her next letter by "Pony Express". You wrote me that you were writing her and I told her and the letter hasn't arrived.

Guess Bob will see you before you can get this but he might not think to tell you about Collins Cooper being reported missing on the 5th of this month. His mother was reading a letter she received that was written five days before he was reported missing and she had a heart attack and died couple of day later. It was an awful thing to happen.

Betty Marie married the Walker boy Sat. Night. Don't think I'll lose any more sleep over her. He's leaving for service the 29th.

Mamma stayed with me till tonight. I picked and she and I shelled five gallons of shelled butter beans yesterday. I put them in my locker. Got a letter from the negro today telling me the beans and butterbeans in the place are ready to can. Don't know how I'm going to manage to go out to can but must try to find some way.

Girls seem plentiful; and easy to meet there. Have you decided which one you want a second date with? Bob will take care of some of them for you, but Ray can't go out with one now since he's mortgaged property. No news dear so I'll get some shut eye for tomorrow. Will be another one of those days. You will write me just as soon as you find out anything, won't you.

Good night and sweet dreams my dear,

Love, Mother

*Brock mentioned Ray not being "mortgaged property" in his letter dated 6-30-43, probably in response to Bessie's comment in this letter

Monday with

Dearest ones,

Well, Mary E. and I went to N. D. Friday and I got my ring and locket. See! they're so pretty and I'm ~~so~~ proud of them. You know I never had any kind of jewelry before. And I'm crazy about my rings. All the ~~other~~ girls envy me now that I wear a pair of silver rings.

Oh! Bay! did we have fun in the city. We went down on Friday ~~late~~ noon and was supposed to come back that night but, being surrounded by eight or ten good-looking soldiers

at the station, we missed our train. we had to get a hotel room. The only one with a vacant room was the La Salle. A nice little hotel on Canal. We made it to bed about two thirty and slept till twelve next day. we ate dinner, took in a show, fooled around, crossed the river & back on the ferry and etc. at the train station Sat. morn we met two cute sailors who wanted to take us some place before train time but we wouldn't take the chance. we just stuck

around and ³met two other nice
ones who were content to sit
and wait for the train which
incidentally came about 10 min.
after the introduced themselves
(darnit!)

Boys: you have got to do
some thing with our mother!
She's simply working her
head off trying to cook for all
these people. She's in bed
groaning right now as a
result of today's work. I had
to put her to bed when I
came home from work and
cook supper. I left her waiting
over dinner and found her

lanning figs this afternoon.
I had to go get the little negro
girl because it was drizzling
rain!" she said as if she
never had walked in the rain
and what burned me up was I
walked home from work in
the rain. You got to make
mother quit or pretty soon you
won't have a mother to read
those letters about all the
pretty girls you take out every
night and no one to send you
gas stamps. No joking - some
thing must be done and it seems
you are the only ones left
to do it. Every time Ana and I
say something she gets perfectly

furious and doesn't speak at
us for days. Then just be
something you ~~can~~ say or do.
You seem to have such a way
with women - why not
turn on the technique with
your mom! She'd listen
to you when she'd ignore
every one else. (Don't
let your head swell) What
I would love to see her do
is pay. Allie, J.P. and Maxine
a visit. They'd love to have
her and you know she
loves to go. Come on! help
me out. I'm in a rut and
worse than ever I may

be an orphan. I hope
mother doesn't get her
hands ~~on~~ on this before
I mail it - she'd murder
me ! ! !

Well, tomorrow is a new
day with plenty to do.

- - -
do - - -

Good night sweetie,

Betty Jean

P.S. Thanks for the lovely
ring. Every one thinks its
pretty.

July 1943*

Dearest ones,

Well, Mary E and I went to N.O. Friday and I got my ring and locket. Gee? They're so pretty and I'm so proud of them. You know I never had any kind of jewelry before and I'm crazy about my wings. All the girls envy me now that I wear a pair of silver wings.

Oh! Boy! did we have fun in the city. We went down on Friday morn and was supposed to come back that night but being surrounded by 8 or 10 good looking soldiers at the station we missed our train. We had to get a hotel room. The only one with a vacant room was the La Salle. A nice little hotel on the Canal. We made it to bed about two thirty and slept till twelve next day. We ate dinner, took in a show, fooled around, crossed the river and back on the ferry, and ect. At the train station Sat night we met two cute sailors who wanted to take us some place before train time but we wouldn't take the chance. We just stuck around and met two other nice ones who were content to sit and wait for the train which incidentally came about 10 minutes after they introduced themselves (darn it!)

Boys! You have got to do something with our mother! She's simply working her head off trying to cook for all these people. She's in bed groaning right now as a result of today's work. I had to put her to bed when I came home from work and cook supper. I left her sweating over dinner and found her canning figs this afternoon. I had to go get the little negro girl because it was drizzling rain she said as if she never had walked in the rain and what burned me up was I walked home from work in the rain. You got to make mother quit or pretty soon you won't have a mother to read those letters about all the pretty girls you take out every night and now one to send you gas stamps. No joking-something must be done and it seems you are the only ones left to do it. Every time Ava or I say something she gets perfectly furious and doesn't speak at us for days. There must be something you can say or do. You seem to have such a way with women-why not turn on the technique with your mom! She'd listen to you when she'd ignore everyone else (don't let your head swell). What I would love to see her do is pay Allie, Jep, and Maxine a visit. They'd love to have her and you know she would love to go. Come on! Help me out. I am in a rut and worse than ever. I may be an orphan. I hope mother doesn't get her hands on this before I mail it-she'd murder me!!!

Well, tomorrow is a new day with plenty to do.

So- Good night sweethearts, Betty Jean

P.S. Thanks for the lovely ring. Everyone thinks it's pretty.

* The letter dated 8-24-43 insists that Bessie stops work and goes on a nice vacation. Since this letter informs them of the problem, it is reasonable to assume it was written shortly before.

AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO

M/Sgt. H.M. Stennaner
72nd Bomb Sqdn (H)
A.P.O. 708 C/O Postmaster
San Francisco Calif.

F/N

630
M/Sgt. T.B. Thorndill
382TH BOOM GR. 56.18
Prov. Sqn "A" -

POCATELLO, Army Air-Base
IDAHO Salt Lake City, etc



I am sleeping in your
old sleeping place, & it is
certainly comfortable. Thanks.

M1sgt. H.M. Stenner
72nd Bomb Sqdn.
A.P.O. 708 G. Post Office
San Francisco Calif.

Air Mail
Dear Brock

June 28, 1943

I certainly was glad to hear from you
& I'm glad you think of us down here,
cause we are sure having all of the
fellows. It was really rough at
first (after you left), but at present
everything is running pretty smooth.
There is a hell-of-a-lot things I would
like to tell you, but sorry, I can't you'll
just have to guess.

Well let the states are wonderful.
So far I think we have to spend at
least two years in foreign service
before I get back, so you can imagine
how long I'm down here for. & brock
believe me, I don't think I'm going
to like it very much, but I can't
help it so I guess its ok.

So far only (about) eight of us
maybe nine, have made master sergeant.
I was really surprised to make it.

See, Brock I found you bag,
what do you want me to keep. So far I
have every stamp that was in it except
those air-mail stamps you left. & of course

Air
Mail

I had to divide them as we usually do, remember how we divided Tompkins things, well I saw, just before I ²santa - took a little vacation & he wasn't surprised about his equipment.

I had a letter from "Archie". He says he's engaged, & is going to get married soon. He is in Pueblo, Colorado.

I hope this letter reaches you soon. Helen J. still loves me, but it looks like she has got a hell of a long wait ahead of her.

Well Brock, I'm a busy man most-a-day, so must close for now. Please answer soon.

Tell your brother hello, & hope you get close to Somer. Tell see "Babs" if possible, for you, & give her your love, hugs. Please take care of all the women for me until I get back.

Always a friend

"Duke"

P.S. Sir, I now have a
pet.

M. Sgt H.M. Stennaner
72nd Bomb Sq.
San Francisco, California
June 28, 1943

I am sleeping in your old sleeping place
& it is certainly comfortable...thanks

Dear Brock,

I certainly was glad to hear from you & am glad you think of us down here; cause boy we sure do miss all of the fellows. It was really rough at first (after you left), but at present everything is running pretty smooth.

There is a hell-of-a-lot of things I would like to tell you, but sorry I can't. You'll just have to guess.

I'll bet the states are wonderful. So far I think I'll have to spend at least two years in foreign service before I get back, so You can imagine how long I'm down here for; and brother believe me I don't think I'm going to like it very much; but I can't help it so I guess it's OK.

So far only about eight of us, maybe nine, have made Master Sergeant. I was really surprised to make it.

Say, Brock I found your bag. What do you want me to keep. So far I have everything that was in except those air mail stamps you left, & of course I had to divide them as we usually do. Remember how we divided Turnbull's things. Well, I saw him, just before I sorta took a little vacation & he wasn't surprised about his equipment.

I had a letter from Arkie. He says he's engaged & is going to get married soon. He is in Pueblo, Colorado.

I hope this letter reaches you soon. Helen Jo still loves me but it looks like she has got a hell of a long wait ahead of her.

Well Brock, I'm a busy man now a days, so must close for now. Please answer soon.

Tell your brother hello & hope you get close to home.

I'll see Babs, if possible, for you and give her your love. Ha Ha

Please take care of all of the women for me until I get back.

Always a friend,

Ike

PS Oh yes, I now have a Jeep.

FROM

3159 T.B. Hornbill,
8401 S.Q.M. A.D.
Salt Lake City, Utah



BUY
WAR SAVINGS

Mrs. Jessie Hornbill
P.O. Box 205
Magnolia, Mississippi

4-30-43

Dearest Mother,

So it won't you idea at all, not to take over the Lodge, maybe you will be lucky enough to get Babes until you do go to the Lodge. I believe Doris and Betty you would like it there.

You and others may think Gray is wronged greatly but I have a feeling that Diamond, he gave Grace want buy him some nights. He has been out with w three times already. His engagement doesn't mean a thing. I hope she doesn't expect him to stay home and dream of her. Ray likes Bob and it is out for all the world we have. Remember - what I write about Gray is between you and I. The public is not to know. What we don't know will not hurt them or her.

We will be here several more days so
you will have to wait to receive your new
postcard. Paul & Son signed the permit and
we'll get paid for two other days. After
they are paid we will be subject to big
rent. After we are put on alert we will
probably leave 3 or 4 days afterwards.

We don't mind staying here for we are
having a good time. The only trouble is
if we stay here much longer we won't
be home on our birthday. If we don't
make it for ours we will for yours.
This is a good place to be when there
is no work to be done. There are
night gassers but just what we like.
We will get some place at new state
line! we will have to work during
(the day. We sleep here)

We hope to see you soon

For
Paul & Son

6-30-43

Dearest Mother,

So it wasn't your idea at all not to take over the lodge. Maybe you will be lucky enough to get boarders until you do go to the lodge. I believe Doris and Bettye Jean would like it there.

You and others my thing Ray is mortgaged property but I have a feeling that diamond he gave Grace won't keep him home nights. He has been out with us three times already. War engagements doesn't mean a thing. I hope she doesn't expect Ray to stay home and dream of her. Ray like Bob and I is out for all the fun he can have. Remember-what I write about Ray is between you and I-the public is not to know. What one does not know will not hurt him or her.

We will be here several more days so you will have to wait to hear of our new location. Bob and Ray signed the payroll but won't get paid for two or three days. After they are paid we will be subject to shipment. After we are put on alert we will probably leave 3 or ten days afterwards.

We don't mind staying here for we are having a good time. The only trouble is if we stay here much longer we won't be home on our birthday. If we don't make it for ours we will for yours. This is a good place to be when there is no work to be done. These overnight passes are just what we like. We will get some passes at new station but we have to work during the day. (We sleep here)

We hope to see you soon

Love

Bob and Brock

Magnolia Miss
Aug. 8-43

Dearest Boys:

Well I got the letter last night so am in a better mood. But I'm fussier than any of your girls when you fail to write. The letter was a late one from Bob with an old one of Brooks enclosed. You sound like you are having a wonderful time and I'm so happy that you can. The money orders came and I'll go down to morrow and take care of the first two which \$75 and \$20. Sorry I had to make it so heavy but getting it at separate times made it necessary.

No soon I hadn't got the check from the government. Shouldn't it be for more than \$2-50? It's from time you made stops etc. Now. Mary C. husband told me some things I want you to investigate. He said that he had made his mother an allotment to make his income and victory tax lighter. He said if you make me an allotment because you dependent you will not have to pay on that. If this is true you should make it for the amount you want to send home and save the tax. I don't know if this is true but it's worth investigating.

I went to see Hettie this afternoon. She wants to come but of course can't until they get their cotton picked. Mack

said he would let Hettie come by the
15th of Sept. That's a long time off but
expect she still be wanting her. Vickie
has our trip to Lynchburg all cut and dried
for the first of Sept and tried to make Hettie
say she would take ours before them. She
a mess. Said she got a letter from Joe (her
son) yesterday and he said he saw Alice on
his last trip. Said when he told her that
she and I were coming for a visit she
liked to have torn his knit off of him. I
expect she did. Can't you see her?

We went by the place and I got so
disgusted don't know when she go back.
You know the peac I planted for canning.
Well they had picked and sold all of them
said they thought that's what I wanted them
to do. My part was \$12. but would have
been much more if I could have saved
them. Then I went to get my Irish potato
seed to plant and they had eaten them
up. Have a big pecan crop and am
going get them if I have to gather them
green.

Betty Jean is taking her vacation this
week. She was to go to Franklin this
afternoon to visit a friend till Friday but
decided to wait till to morrow. Virginia Rose
wanted her to go to Van Dorn with them
this afternoon and she found that Mr.
and Mrs. Babington are going to go
in the morning so she is to go with them

She will ~~be~~ Sat. and will go to Jackson
for a short visit next week. School starts
the first day of Sept. so she doesn't have
long to work or vacate. She had her biggest
day yesterday - sold \$128,00 worth of mose.
Her boss thought it was wonderful.

I forgot to tell you in my last letter
that Betty Jean got a letter from your
Daddy last week. Said - Oh I'll just
send you the letter and let you
see what he said. She and Ada has
written him but I'm afraid he won'tful
so proud of Betty J. letter. By the way Ada
is fusing up a storm about you
not writing her. Have you got the birth-
day gift she sent you. She ask to day
if you had mentioned them to me, that
she hadn't heard word one from you since
she sent them - hope you get them for
they are nice.

- will send you another ballot this
week with instructions how to vote ful
sure tho it will be Bailey for governor
Have never seen any body want one but
worse than Mamma wants ~~comes~~. Do
hope we get him if I don't get better help
I'm afraid I want so much ~~about~~ toward
beating him. Have fun darling but
please don't forget to write me
Love and kisses brother.

Magnolia, Miss
Aug. 8-43

Dearest Boys,

Well I got the letters last night so am in a better mood. Bet I'm fussier than any of your girls when you fail to write. The letter was a late one from Bob with an old one of Brock's enclosed. You sound like you are having a wonderful time and I'm so happy that you can. The money orders came and I'll go down tomorrow and take care of the first two notes_ \$75 and \$20. Sorry I had to make it so heavy but getting it at separate times made it necessary.

No son I haven't got her check from the government. Shouldn't it be for more than \$22.50? It's from time you made Staff till now. Mary E husband told me something I want you to investigate. He said that he had make his mother an allotment to make his income and Victory tax lighter. He said if you make me an allotment as your dependent you will not have to pay on that. If this is true, you should make it for the amount you want to send home and save the tax. I don't know if this is true, but it's worth investigating.

I went to see Hettie this afternoon. She wants to come but of course can't until they get their cotton picked. Mack said he would let Hettie come by the 15th of Sept. That's a long time off but expect I'll still be wanting her. Vickie has our trip to Lynchburg all cut and dried for the first of Sept and tried to make Hettie say she would take over before then. She's a mess. Said she got a letter from Joe (her son) yesterday and he said he saw Alle on his last trip. Said when he told her that she and I were coming for a visit she like to have torn his suit off of him. I expect she did. Can't you see her?

We went by the place and I got so disgusted don't know when I'll go back. You know the peas I planted for caning? Well they had picked and sold all of them. Said they thought that's what I wanted to do. My part was \$12 but would have been much more if I could have saved them. Then I went to get my Irish potatoes seed to plant and they had eaten them up. Have a big pecan crop and I'm going to get them if I have to gather them green.

Betty Jean is taking her vacation this week. She was to go to Franklinton this afternoon to visit a friend till Friday but decided to wait till tomorrow. Virginia Payne wanted her to go to Van Dorn with them this afternoon and she found that Mr. and Mrs. Babington are going down in the morning so decided to go with them. She will work Sat. and will go to Jackson for a short visit next week. School starts the first day of Sept. so she doesn't have long to work or vacation. She had her biggest day yesterday - sold \$128.00 worth of merchandise. Her boss thought it was wonderful.

I forgot to tell you in my last letter that Betty Jean got a letter from your daddy last week. Said - oh I'll just send you the letter and let you see what he said. She and Ava has written him but I'm afraid he won't feel so proud of Betty J. letter. By the way

Ava is guessing up a storm about you not writing her. Have you got the birthday gifts she sent you. She asked today if you had mentioned them to me. That she hadn't heard word one from you since she sent them. Hope you get them for they are nice.

Will send you another ballot this week with instructions how to vote. Feel sure tho it well be Baily for governor. Have never seen anybody want one worse than Momma wants Comas. Do hope we get him. If I don't get better help I'm afraid I won't do much toward beating him. Have fun darlings but please don't forget to write me.

Love and kisses, mother.

Magnolia Miss
Aug 22-43 -

Hello Darlings:

I know you think I've been careless about writing you. It hasn't been carelessness at all but I've had so much to do that I'm dead tired when night comes. Dora, has been with me over a week and has worked as hard as I. She's certainly a swell person and is always helping me out ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ some way. She's staying with Hobson to night and tomorrow night and will go home Tuesday to date. Mammina came yesterday to be here to date Tuesday. My but I hope Barker and Riley will.

We're in giving this house up on the 1st and moving with Eva and the children. Major has joined the Navy and will be leaving soon so am sure getting to gather to what we should do. I hate like the devil to see him go but it's what he wants and no doubt he would be drafted before long and how so guess its best. I hate leaving Magnolia on Betty Jeane account for I know she loves it here. Wonder I'm sure she will feel quite different about McComb than she did when we lived there before. We were both so unhappy no clothes or anything, I may send her to Summit or I should say South-West. Mr. Kenna told Ga it cost \$12 a unit (6 week) for straight course or \$18 for commissary ^{and} I want her to stay with me until she finishes high school. The question of

help is going to be worse in peace or better
They promise to come and you never see
them and those that do come or not worth
a "toss" I'm simply worn out and don't
know if I can hold out till the 1st or not.
Zera will be home to morrow and I'm
going to tell her so guess shall go in
to leave again as she did when she thought
I was leaving in the spring. I've enjoyed
my stay here as long as I had good help
and have also slept right well, but I'm
convinced that I can't carry on.

Surprise number two is that I'm getting
ready to go to Lynchburg about the 18th of
Sep. I sl. Called Vicki today and said she
was making her ticket to morrow. I got a
letter from Alice yesterday and she sounded
smiled to death over the thought of my coming
and listen what she said "Dent Bear, I'm
leaving here about the 20th for Memphis to
bring Sofia home. Am going in my car
and if you'll come and go with me it won't
cost you a cent". I never really thought much
about going until I got her letter but that
sound like too good an opportunity to pass
up. You know I've never been farther
south than New Orleans or further
north than Jackson, so it will be
a wonderful trip for me. And too I know
the girls take care and will do all they
can to make my visit a great success.

So far get to tell you that I plan to get
me a job when I get back. Eva spoke to

the manager of Remuda about me yesterday
and he said he felt sure he could give
me work when I returned. Don't think that
I plan to sit down on you darling for
I don't. However I've got to get something
easier than what I'm doing now. For other
month tho I plan to forget work completely.
I hope I hope!

I'm been thinking of you all day wondering
just how big a task you were having on
your trip to Yellow Stone Park. You didn't
say how long a leave you had. I'm so
glad you can go to the places of interest
around you. A car is an expensive journey
but a darn good one. As usual we
joined Hobson and Mamma at Dixie
Springs for the afternoon. Wish you
could have seen Bitty & riding the surf
board. First time she had ever tried
to ride one and the rascal did
fine. I will try any thing once. I
want to write Alice at hotel to inform
her that I'm taking her up on her
offer. Tomorrow is Monday and an
awful hard day so I need some
sleep too. Hope you approve of what
I'm doing for I didn't have time to
ask your advise. Be sweet my
darling and don't forget I love
you Stanley Mother.

Magnolia, Miss
Aug. 22-43

Hello Darlings,

I know you think I've been careless about writing up you. It hasn't been carelessness at all but I've has so much to do that I'm dead tired when night comes. Dora has been with me over a week and has worked almost as hard as I. She's certainly a swell person and is always helping me out in some way. She's staying with Hobson tonight and tomorrow night and will go home Tuesday to vote. Mamma came yesterday to be here to vote Tuesday. My but I hope Bailey and Culey wins.

Well I'm giving this house up on the 1st and moving in with Ava and the children. Major has joined the Navy and will be leaving soon so am sure getting together. It's what we should do. I hate like the devil to see him go but it's what he wants and no doubt he would be drafted before long anyhow so guess it's best. I hate leaving Magnolia on Betty Jean's account for I know she loves it here. However I'm sure she will feel quite different about McComb than she did when we lived there before. We were both so unhappy; no clothes or anything. I may send her to Summit or I should say Southwest. Mr. Kenna told Ava it cost \$12 a unit (6 week) for straight course or \$18 for commercial course. I want her to stay with me until she finishes high school. The question of help is going to be worse in place of better. They promise to come and you never see them and those that do come are not worth a "hoot". I'm simply worn out and don't know if I can hold out till the 1st or not. Tera will be home tomorrow and I'm going to sell her so guess she'll go in to tears again as she did when she thought I was leaving in the spring. I've enjoyed my stay here as long as I had good help and have also done right well but I'm convinced that I can't carry on.

Surprise number two is that I'm getting ready to go to Lynchburg about the 18th of September. Joe called Vickie today and said he was mailing her a ticket tomorrow. I got a letter from Alle yesterday and she sounded thrilled to death over the thought of my coming and listen to what she said. "Aunt Bess I'm leaving here about the 20th for Maxine's to bring Jepa home. Am going in my car and if you'll come and go with me it won't cost you a cent. I never really thought much about going until I got her letter but that sounded like too good and opportunity to pass up. You know I've never been farther south than New Orleans or further north than Jackson, so it well be a wonderful trip for me. And too I know the girls love me and will do all they can to make my visit a great success.

I forgot to tell you that I plan to get me a job when I get back. Ava spoke to the manager of Penney's about me yesterday and he said he feels sure he could give me work when I returned. Don't think that I plan to sit down on you darlings for I don't. However I've got to get something easier than what I'm doing now. For one month tho I plan to forget work completely. I hope I hope!

I've been thinking of you all day wondering just how big a time you were having on your trip to Yellowstone N. Park. You didn't say how long a leave you had. I'm so glad you can go to the places of interest around you. A car is an expensive [unreadable] but a darn good one. As usual we joined Hobson and Mamma at Dixie Springs for the afternoon. Wish you could have seen Betty J. riding the surfboard. First time she had ever tried to ride one and the rascal did fine. She'll try anything once. I want to write Alle a note to inform her that I'm taking her up on her offer. Tomorrow is Monday and an awful hard day so I need some sleep too. Hope you approve of what I'm doing for I didn't have time to ask your advise. Be sweet my darling and don't forget I love you dearly,

Mother

51, + 2 B. Shonkell
5, Bond St. A.P.C.
8, Idaho



110 6

Miss Bessie Shonkell

P.O. Box 225

Waujekie, Mississippi

8-28-1943

Dearest Mother,

I know you are anxious to hear of our trip to Yellowstone Park so I will start in and tell you. The thing is we had a lot to see in such a short while. I made every minute of the day count and left here Saturday mid-night. Every one but the driver tried to sleep. None of us did well at all. We didn't have a flat but we had tire trouble. The one that had been Vulcanized, blew a tire all over the place. We put the extra tire in its old place. We well know the tires all of us do not care we will probably never get another. The conductor called us a lot, and don't know what happened to it for I know I had a ticket, and I don't know if a conductor much goes to sleep. I think he averaged the same to be yellow girls to be pink better than that train back. We still have Yellowstone. I am not going to get it now. We didn't get either double trouble up there or went out for a good time. We had one though first, the Day after May got away I don't get to Yellowstone at five a.m. I let the

were still dark we got out this was about 6:00
and we went up to 1442 to catch the bus. We had to
wait until 6:30 for breakfast. We had breakfast at
6:30 and entered the bus at 7:45. The ranger at
the gate gave us a map with instructions. The
regular entrance fee is \$3.00 service charge, we
were glad to hear that for we didn't expect to be charged
to enter the park.

The Park is probably noted for its Bighorn sheep
and mountain goats than any other. The sheep often
have a white coat of them being different colors. They
are very shy and are the ones that enjoy the
water rising 75ft. high from the stream
in the morning but goes blowing out of holes in the
rock. Most of the sheep there are at high
elevation some like deer to the snow banks there
and they are not afraid of people.

The Park has four or five different sides running
through it each side has waterfalls. The highest
one is a waterfall of 100 ft. wide a hundred feet
high and 100 feet wide.

We didn't see all of the falls for we didn't have time
but at least a 150 miles of road.

it would take us that much time. We entered
the west gate in Monterrey and left by the
east gate in Aguilera. I was confused when
I found that I was in Monterrey that morning
instead of Aguilera. I had been in Aguilera
the two days and I also asked about a station
you can think it may just be my first day
over there. We eat a blackie, swim around and tag
in the Rio.

We left the Rio at 5:30. Reached ~~Jacobs~~ ^{Jacobs} Wyne
Ranch. Dad dinner and we left for Rosetillo
at 6:30 after supper. We road the Victoria
mountains all the night and were up
within over I don't know the night but got to
miles up & down by the road. I went back on
a, kept poor we stop - Re-in for 10 minutes
to drink. I had been walking. Very late driving. I was
to drive from there to bed. But had to stop to be
driven for me. I slept all the way. We reached
Rosetillo shortly after mid night took the pick
from the road and drove. Had to get in &
play till 7:30. I got up and had until ten. Took bath then
from ten to eleven. The dinner and slept till afternoon.

I got up for exercise and went back to bed.
The C.P. will come at 11:30 a.m. to release him
that will give me just before I leave an hour &
I had filled 100 bushels. I will be on C.R. until
Tuesday morn. I will probably sleep this afternoon
in a boat with date of departure.

Mother it's time for us to get to gather in
at you away from all this work and worry. We
have not thought about you to move in with us.
I really you didn't think this was possible. Well, we
know you two will need each other. You know
you will be set in different ways want to go
wherever with the big boards. You what you're
going through but you still refuse to change. We
are trying again to give up the boarding house
and move in with Leo, take your vacation to Virginia
or I suggest to New York, come back around
September if you like and settle down and live
the simple life. This should be done before the
fall comes. I do hope you can start to school in
the fall. First of all stop worrying about where
your next dollar is coming from; you make the
same old plan. We don't want to get you

with you over this for it is silly of me to
get this way. Be off with the city - Why should
you tell yourself nothing? You'll go but I
have no right to you. I have no right
to you for many years now. I am still your
husband though you had better think
to be my son in law. That long. We
will trouble you for we are too far away. All's left
to you - take it or leave it. More to you with love

tomorrow and give a happy life of day and see
I be a New Englander for the year
(you would be a dependent who could not live
at sea.)

Make us happy by letting us know that you are
with both and all on the way to Virginia next month.
We wait for this message and none other.
Be a good girl now.

Give my love to all. Tell Doris I
will write her sometime in the near
future.

Loves & Kisses
Bob & Webb

8-24-1943

Dearest Mother,

I know you are anxious to hear of our trip to Yellowstone Park so I will start in and tell you. The thing is we had a lot to see in such a short while. To make every minute of the day count we left her Saturday Midnight. Everyone but the driver tried to sleep. None of us did well at all. We didn't have a flat but we had tire trouble. The one that had been Vulcanized was bumping all over the place. We put the extra on in its place. We will inspect the tire if it is not safe we will ask for a new one. The carburetor acted up also. I don't know what happened to it for I haven't investigated. I do know it allowed too much gas to pass. I think we averaged ten miles to a gallon going up. Not much better than that coming back. We will have carburetor cleaned and adjusted to get it normal again. We didn't let either trouble trouble us for we were out for a good time. We had one too. Bob drove first, then Ray. When Ray got sleepy I drove. I got to Yellowstone at five a.m. The town was still black. The gate, West Gate, was closed. We had to wait until 7:45 to enter the park. We had to wait until 6:30 for breakfast. We had breakfast at 6:30 and entered the park at 7:45. The regular entrance fee is \$3.00 service men free. We were glad to hear that for we didn't expect to be charged it enter the park.

The park is probably noted for its geysers for we saw more geysers than anything else. Each geyser has a name. Most of them are of different colors-they are of all sizes. There is one that ejects once a day the water rising 75ft high, some of the geysers are nothing but gas blowing out of holes in the ground. Most of the spring there are at boiling point. Some boils due to the gasses under them and they are not at boiling point.

The park has four or five different rivers running through it. Each river has a water fall. The Yellowstone falls is the prettiest of them all. It's a hundred food drop into a canyon that is several hundred feet deep and 1500 feet wide.

We didn't see all of the Park for we didn't have time. It is at least 130 miles square. Think how long it would take to see that much territory. We entered the west gate in Montana and left by the south gate in Wyoming. I was confused when I found that I was in Montana that morning instead of Wyoming. The Park is in three states. The two above and Idaho also. I have a pillow slip from there "to my sister" They didn't have any other. We got a sticker, swiss broom and tag for the car.

We left the park at 5:30. Reached Jackson, Wyoming at 6:30. Had dinner there. Left for Pocatello a little after eight. We crossed the Teton Mountains. It's the highest mountain I've ever ridden over. I don't know the height but its ten miles up and down by the road. I must check on the height soon. We stopped in Remington for something to drink. I had been asleep. Ray was driving. I was to drive from there to her. Bob couldn't sleep so he drove for me. I slept all the way. We reached Pocatello shortly after midnight. Took the girls home. Then we went home. Went to bed and slept till 7:30. I worked until ten. Took [unreadable] from ten to [unreadable]. Ate dinner and slept this afternoon.

I got up for supper and went back to bed. The C.O. woke me at 11:30 to relieve him. That's where I am now. Before I came on duty I had fried eggs to eat. I will be on C.O. until twelve noon. I will probably sleep this afternoon before Bob and I with dates go swimming.

Mother it's time for us to get together and get you away from all this work and worry. Ava told us that Major ask you to move in with Ava. Naturally you didn't give him an answer. When he leaves you and Ava will need each other. Your living expenses will be cut in half and you won't be playing nurse maid to a dozen boarders. You what you are going through but you still refuse to change. We asking you again to give up the boarding house, move in with Ava, take your vacation to Virginia and maybe to New York, come back a new woman get a job if you like and settle down and live a normal life. This should be done before the first so Bettye Jean can start to school in McComb. First of all stop worrying about where your next dollar is coming from; thousands are being made daily. We don't want to get cross with you over this for it is silly of you to act his way. Let's not be this way-why should you kill yourself working because you don't want to be dependent on your children. We were dependent on you for twenty years weren't we. If you want to be our dependent that long you had better listen to us now and do what we want you to. We can't make you for we are to far away. It's left up to you-take it or leave it. Move in with Ava tomorrow and live a happy life or stay where you are and be a nervous wreck in less than a year (then you would be a dependent-we wouldn't like that either).

Make us happy by letting us know that you are with Ava and are on your way to Virginia next month. We are waiting for this message and none other. Be a good girl now.

Give my love to all. Tell Doris I will write her sometime in the near future.

Love and kisses, Bob and Brock

Sgt. T. B. Thornhill
Box 205
Magnolia Miss



S/Sgt. T. B. Thornhill
539th Bomb Sq. A.A.C.
Pocatello
Idaho.

Magnolia Miss
Aug. 29, 43.

My darling boys:

I know you think
that your mother is getting to be
a bad girl about writing but
I have the same excuse to offer.
Work and man work. Just two
more morning and I won't have
to go to bed thinking about getting
up at six o'clock to fix Mr. Soi's
breakfast. We enjoyed my stay
here and am very grateful for
what we done in a ~~proposed~~
way but we worked too hard
this summer.

Brock's letter telling of the trip to
Yellow Stone Park and giving me
ideas came this morning. I'm
sure the letter telling you of my

decision to move with Ava.
Reached you soon after you
sent it. The trip to the park was
wonderful. Too bad tho that
you didn't have longer to stay.
Major goes to Shulba on the 7th
to be sworn in and then he
will leave in seven to thirty days
- seven more likely. I'll leave
him the 1st after paying my
bills and getting the house
straight. All are sick over my
leaving and don't know how
they will manage their eating.
By the way Doris is leaving
too. On the 1st. Poor kid
was transferred to Liberty and all
most died when she learned
about it. I don't think it will be
so bad or at least not as bad
as she's afraid of it being. Major
worries a load of my things in

Summer and we decided to
let her do it. It will cost \$18 a
month but Mr Kenna said if
she wanted a job sweeping floors
it would pay \$8. a month. Mrs
K. said that several of the girls
worked in Summit and McComb
Sat. afternoons. If she can get
a eight hour job Sat. & S &
rather she do that ~~than~~ than ~~sweep~~
~~sweep the floors~~. If I land a
good job we will be alright.
I wouldn't want her to rush through
school but honest it looks now
like our high school will soon
be nothing. And too B.J. is big
and old for her age and I know
can take care of her self. A nice
coat and shoe is about all
she left for me to get her this
winter. I think she has a smart
girl don't you?

the company truck yesterday
He coming tomorrow after work
for more and then we move the
refrigerator Tuesday night. My
but I'm proud of it. Anna is letting
the people use here. They have an
ice box but don't have an ice
route any more. They should be
proud of it. Expect the house will
be a little crowded unless we
find a place to store a few
things.

I hope you approve of my plans
for Betty Jean. I hated to move
to McComb on her account. She
hates it and I know it. However
she tried to make me think she
didn't mind. Last week she ask
if I would send her to Sooth
West. so she can finish high
school this winter and next

Did you think I'd forgotten the
trip to Pa. Well I haven't and plan
to leave the 8th or 10th. I got Air
Mail letters from Alice and Mack
to day and will send them to you.
I knew they would be glad to
have. Am I conceited or am
I conceited? ha, Alice going to Mack
in her car and said the trip
would not cost me a cent. I don't
think so - to be true. I love going
to see them but would much rather
be taking my self toward you. Of
course I know it would cost too
much and I'd hate to leave Pa if I
was going to see you. Do you
still think you will get a job in
Pa. and coming south in
the fall. How I wish you could
be stationed near enough home
that we could visit you often
hoping you will be soon.

Sorry you had car trouble on
your trip and hope you didn't find
much wrong with it. Getting my
brake line cost me \$12.00. I
got a certificate for two #1 grade
tires and ordered them from Sun
Friday. The two cost \$31.75. Mr. Quin
said one of my tires would take a
retread so I'll have four good
tires. Wish I could have had my
car checked and every thing fixed
and tightened up before I gave
the house up but I couldn't go
on another month without help.

Boys I want be home first of
Oct. so I want you to send the
money order for the note to Steve,
for I don't want to take a chance
on it being paid late. Also write
him a note & thanks for being so
nice about letting me have the money.
Address Mr. Steve Babington. magnolia.
There must be a stopping place so
I'll make this it. I don't know where
it is. mother

Magnolia, Miss
Aug. 29th, 43

My Darling boys,

I know you think that your mother is getting to be a bad girl about writing but I have the same excuse to offer, work and more work. Just two more mornings and I won't have to go to bed thinking about getting up at six o'clock to fix Mr. Bob breakfast. I've enjoyed my stay here and am very grateful for what I've done in a [unreadable] way but I've worked too hard this summer.

Brock's letter telling of the trip to Yellowstone Park and giving me orders came this morning. I'm sure the letter telling you of my decision to move with Ava reached you soon after you sent it. The trip to the park sounded wonderful. Too bad tho that you didn't have longer to stay.

Major goes to Shelby on the 7th to be sworn in and then he will leave in 7 to 30 days – seven more likely. I'll leave here the 1st after paying my bills and getting the house straight. All are sick over my leaving and don't know how they will manage their eating. By the way Doris is leaving too. On the 1st. Poor kid was transferred to Liberty and almost did when she learned about it. I don't think it will be so bad or at least not as bad as she's afraid of it being. Major moved a load of my things in the company truck yesterday. He's coming tomorrow after work for more and then will move the refrigerator Tuesday night. My but I'm proud of it. Ava is letting the Pope's use hers. They have a nice one but don't have an ice route any more. They should be proud of it. Expect the house will be a little crammed unless we find a place to store a few things.

I hope you approve of my plans for Betty Jean. I hated to move to McComb on her account. She hates it and I know it. However she's tried to make me think she didn't mind. Last week she asked if I would send her to Southwest so she can finish high school this winter and next summer and I've decided to let her do it. It will cost \$18 a month but Mr. Kenna said if she wanted a job sweeping floors it would pay \$18 a month. Mrs. K said that several of the girls worked in Summit and McComb Sat. afternoons. If she can get an eight hour job Sat. I'd rather she do that than sweep the floors. If I land a good job we will be alright. I wouldn't want her to rush through school but honest it looks like our high school will soon be nothing. And too B.J. is big and old for her age and I know can take care of herself. A nice coat and shoes is about all she's left for me to get her this winter. I think she's been a smart girl, don't you?

Did you think I'd forgotten the trip to VA? Well, I haven't and plan to leave the 8th or 10th. I got air mail letters from Alle and Mack today and will send them to you. I knew they would be glad to have. Am I conceited or am I conceited? Ha. Alle is going to Mack's in her car and said the trip would not cost me a cent. Sounds too good to be true. I love going to see them but would much rather be taking my self toward you. Of course I know it would cost too much and I'd hate to leave B.J. if was going to see you. Do you still think you will get a furlough in Nov. and come south in the fall. How I wish you

could be stationed near enough to home that we could visit you often. Here's hoping you will be soon.

Sorry you had car trouble on your trip and hope you didn't find much wrong with it. Getting my brakes lined cost me \$12.00. I got a certificate for two #1 grade tires and ordered them from Sears Friday. The two cost \$31.75. Mr. Quin said one of my tires would take a retread so I'll have four good tires. Wish I could have had my car checked and everything fixed and tightened up before I gave the house up but I couldn't go another month without help.

Boys I won't be home first of Oct. so I want you to send the money order for the notes to Steve for I don't want to take a chance on it being paid late. Also write him a note of thanks for being so nice about letting me have the money. Address Mr. Steve Babington, Magnolia.

There must be a stopping place so I'll make this it. I love you darlings.

Nite nite, mother.

Mamma and Lena came down today and my help (Dora bless her heart) went home with them. I'm glad for she's been doing too much. We all are – except Tal – happy over beating Mike Conner. Dr. Riley lost but he and Lena will be taken care of.



UNITED STATES ARMY AIR FORCES
POCATELLO, IDAHO

8-31-43

Dear Mother & all,

Well I feel much better now than I ever got paid this morning. I was a little extravagant this month & checked up a little short. It being the last of the month gave you a nice sum & getting settled down again. I am really glad to that you are ready to start vacation. I am really having trouble with this pen. By the way has the paper come back yet? Finally for the vacation. You will have 10 days to straighten things up and just before starting. I know you will be glad to get a bush bear over. First in many years I do hope every thing turns out O.K. I wonder if you would be too tired to drop back by Pocatello for a couple of weeks? I sure would like to see you. If you think you can make it we promise we will get a room & everything. We could have a wonderful time too! we could go to Yellow Stone, Salt Lake & lots of places. Too I don't think we will be over a couple of months & would to like for you to see this country. If you wanted to

You could get warp here and stay couple months.
wouldnt that be nice. so in case you are not too
tired after the other trip just let me know. I would
really like to have you come up. You would enjoy
it too. It wouldn't cost but very little more
than train fare either. so think it over. you
could get a one way ticket to Va. & get train from
there. I think it would be a good deal for being
over here and dont get but 7 days at home
it would cost much less for you to come here
than for the both of us to make the trip. How
about it? Hope you say yes.

Well he makes better the way or get? But
he is all ready to go. I hope he gets a good
station & maybe class by. Give him my luck &
I am still wondering how he will work that
much money. I don't know much about the
way tho. Glad to hear Ann is getting better
she is doing all kinds of losing weight. Hope
she continues.

I am wondering what B.F. has decided to
do. Guess she will know by now. She will
do what is best the four sure. She is really a



UNITED STATES ARMY AIR FORCES
POCATELLO, IDAHO

want kid & sum to have plenty ob sound
judgment. She doesn't sum like a kid ob 15.
I am really proud ob her.

Bay is it getting cold here? I thought it was
going to freeze yesterday but didn't. It warmed
up a bit to day. Its the mornings that cold
here. I don't mind it much tho. Food is fine
the place was very dry.

Remember I was telling you about the girls
I met well we changed & things are going
O.K. They are really nice & good looking. we have
lots ob fun with them. Think we will go to a
dance to night.

Brock got a letter from Barbara today & she
doesn't sum to be angry at all. Her wold is the
one, probably. I can't be married tho for she
should be able to understand.

Roz is boeing for Salt Lake tho $\frac{4}{5}$ to go to
school a month. She sum to be happy over th

deal but I don't have any desire to go to school again.

We were at the Shamrock Sat night had a wonderful time. How about a date to go swimming am sure dad would have a big time.

Well this is so new to think things around let us know what you decide. Keep you wife to come. Give my best regards.

Tues

Bob & Brook

8-31-1943
United States Army Air Forces
Pocatello, Idaho

Dearest Mother and all,

Well I feel much better now that we got paid this morning. I was a little extravagant this month and checked up a little short. It being the last of the month guess you are moving and getting settled down again. I am really glad to know that you are ready for that vacation. (I am really having trouble with this pen) By the way has the packard come back yet? I really need it. As I was saying hope you are ready for the vacation. You will have 10 days to straighten things up and rest before leaving. I know you will be glad to get a break for once. First in many years & I do hope everything turns out OK. I wonder if you would be too tired to drop back by Pocatello for a couple of weeks? I sure would like to see you. If you think you can make it let us know & we will get a room & everything. We could have a wonderful time too! We could go to Yellowstone, Salt Lake, and lots of places. Too, I don't think we will be over a couple of months & would like for you to see this country. If you wanted to you could get work here and stay couple months. Wouldn't that be nice. So in case you are not too tired after the other trip just let us know. I would really like to have you come up. You would enjoy it too. It wouldn't cost but very little more than train fare either. So think it over, you could get a one way ticket to VA and get ticket from there. I think it would be a good deal for being we are here and can't get but 7 days at home it would cost much less for you to come here than for the both of us to make the trip. How about it? Hope you say yes.

Well has major left for the Navy as yet? Bet he is all ready to go. I hope he gets at a good station & maybe close by. Give him my luck & I am still wondering how he will make that much money. I don't know much about the Navy tho. Glad to hear Ava is getting better & she is doing a fine job of losing weight. Hope she continues.

I am wondering what Bl.J. has decided to do. Guess she will know by now. She will do what's best tho I am sure. She is really a sweet kid and seems to have plenty of sound judgement. She doesn't seem like a kid of 15. I am really proud of her.

Boy is it getting cold here! I thought it was going to freeze yesterday but didn't. It warmed up a bit today. It's the mornings that's cold here. I don't mind it much tho. Fact is I like the place more every day.

Remember I was telling you about the girls I meet. Well we changed & things are going OK. They are really nice & good looking. We have lots of fun with them. Think we will go to a dance tonight.

Brock got a letter from Barbara today & she doesn't seem to be angry at all. Mrs. Wall is the one, probably. I can't be worried tho for she should be able to understand.

Ray is leaving for Salt Lake the 4th to go to school a month. He seems to be happy over the deal but I don't have any desire to got to school again.

We were at the Shamrock Sat night and had a wonderful time. How about a date to go some nite am sure we would have a big time.

Well there is no news so think things over and let us know what you decide. Hope you decide to come. Give my love to all.

Love, Bob and Brock

Sunday night

My Dear Boys -

Haven't written you since I got home, so many things happening.

First Mamma was out in the yard and fed (Monday evening) & I stayed with her until Wednesday, when I got rested up and guess what I did, went out to stake some tomato plants and cut my foot with the small ax I was using so now I am setting for a

2 while, but oh I hope not for
long I am so tired all ready
Mamma was not hurt but
was frightened and a little
sore so I stayed until I
felt she was all right

See I am glad your
mother gave up that house
my my the work was hard
too much for her, & I hope
she can get a good rest &
then her trip & she will feel
like enjoying life

I am glad that Belly's
is going to Summit I think

it will be best for her.

Ava house is small & will
not be hard to keep clean if
they don't have any help

John is still in the desert
& hot as blue blazes he says

I am so glad Brock is.
Our chief again I know he
enjoys being boss

That was a good trip to
Yellow Stone Park and I
know you enjoyed it. I
am sorry I did not go on
there when I was in Pocatello

Nancy has just returned
from Goodman & is full
of the good time she had.

Guess Bette will be
starting to school tommorow.
You should have seen her
riding the surf board she
was really good, but it soon
learned to throw her off. Of
course he enjoyed that

We are getting some rain
& cooler weather - we needed
both, this has been a hot summer.
Hope you are both well & happy
from Aunt Dora

Early September 1943*
Sunday Night

My Dear Boys,

Haven't written you since I got home, so many things happening.

First Mama was out in the yard and fell (Monday evening) so I stayed with her until Wednesday. Then I got rested up and guess what I did. Went out to stake some tomato plants and cut my foot with the small axe I was using so now I am setting for a while, but oh I hope not for long. I am so tired all ready.

Mama was not hurt but was frightened and a little sore so I stayed until I felt she was all right.

Gee, I am glad your mother gave up that house. My, my the work was hard, too much for her, & I hope she can get a good rest & then her trip & she will feel like enjoying life.

I am glad that Betty G is going to Summit. I think it well be best for her.

Ava house is small & will not be hard to keep even if they don't have any help.

John is still in the dessert & hot as blue blazes he says.

I am so glad Brock is Crew Chief again. I know he enjoys being boss.

That was a good trip to Yellowstone Park and I know you enjoyed it. I am sorry I did not go one there when I was in Pocatello.

Nancy has just returned from Goodman & is full of the good time she had.

Guess Betty will be starting to school tomorrow.

You should have seen her reading the score board. She was really good, but Hobson learned to throw her off. Of course he enjoyed that.

We are getting some rain & cooler weather. We needed both. This has been a hot summer

Hope you are both well and happy.

From Aunt Dora

*Dora mentions in this letter that she is glad Bessie gave up the boarding house but her trip to the Northeast had not happened yet, which would place this letter in early September 1943

Lynchburg Va
Sun. +

My Darling.

Sarah & I didn't had one minute for writing since arrival we landed at 9th & Friday morning too tired for words. We ate breakfast took a bath and went to bed. At one o'clock Joe Waked Vicki to tell her he had been called to make a river leading there - at three and half hours on returning at ten. Of course got up dressed and camp with him he had a nice visit together and let you know I am going back to Dent with them - soon before go home.

The drive from Nashville here is beautiful and I enjoyed every minute of it. first mountain bird ever seen and couldn't take my eyes off of them.

Bill and Dan are fine. They both have a pretty and comfortable place & Dan seems to be a very nice person and he and Alice are happy I think we will have to make a short stay down that deer and I am

We did drive all right and shall
tell but dread it as tho' to see big
part of the country.

We got good time on the stage
but how we had to pack and wait
to do it. See that every body is making
about. We changed three big teams
from Mo comb-hoe. I enjoyed it
as the crowds late horses and pack
for a late start of & was worn out. I
went to spend the night in Knobville
to rest but couldn't get a room
anywhere.

They went to take the riding to see
the town. Will write you a long
letter to you & we see had plenty
time to myself.

I love you & Mother

Early September 1943
Lynchburg, VA
Sunday

My Darlings,

Seems I haven't had one minute for writing since arrival. We landed at Joe's Friday morning too tired for words. We ate breakfast, took a bath and went to bed. At one o'clock Joe waked Vickie to tell her he had been called to make a run here leaving there at three and leading her on return at ten. Of course we got up dressed and came with him. We had a nice visit together and lots of fun. I'm going back to visit with them some before I go home.

The drive from Nashville here is beautiful and I enjoyed every minute of it. First mountains I've ever seen and couldn't take my eyes off of them.

Allie and Dan are fine. They certainly have a pretty and comfortable place. Dan seems to be a very nice person and he and Alle are happy I think. We will leave for Mark's next Sat. noon. First Alle and I guess we will drive all night and I can't help but dread it as I'm to do a big part of the driving.

We got hood seats all the way up but how we had to push and wait to do it. Seems that everybody is working about. We changed busses six times from McComb to here. I enjoyed it are the crowds late hours and pushing for seats but I was worn out. I meant to spend the night in Knoxville to rest but couldn't get a room anywhere.

They want to take me riding to see the town. Will write you a long letter tomorrow as I've plenty of time to myself.

I love you, Mother

Dearest Mother Sept 14, 1943

No that you do in Virginia with all
are it you find you agreed to give up work
and wait a while & we are glad that you did.
We want you to have the time of your life
on this trip. And said before we want you back
before you return home to settle down again. Come
when you return from W.H. and we will visit
Yellowstone before they close for the winter.
We will go to Fall Lake, Sun Valley and any
other place you desire. You must come for we
won't be able to go home unless we go to Idaho
if I can't get a vacation day just longer
all that we give us. Don't let this interfere
with the trip to W.H. though we know you intend
to see both places. If you come here we will
show you the west just like Alice & Mopan
we know you like the West.

I know I should write you every day but I
never stop long enough to catch a breath

My day begins at 6:30 a.m. I get up, brush and
wash, eat and go to work before 7:30. I don't
until 5:30, eat supper, wash clothes & clean, then
my shoes and go to town to pick up our father
at eight. We date first night a week. We have a
get home before 10. Some times we stay out until
11 o'clock all day and what we do we went to
Grand Island Saturday last Thursday Bob and I
Hull Falls (5 miles south) last Thursday Bob and I
Ruth & I. We danced to Harry King's orchestra
until 12:45. Edna home in bed at three. We went
on a picnic to Justice Park last night. It was
fine weather and got home that night. We sat & ate
potato - beans (low), tomatoes, Potatoes, Cucumbers, etc.
Roasted marshmallows then ate watermelon. We had
no return to houses. Edna is Ruth's cousin. She had
a date too.

Please don't worry about us working. We will take
care of our selves and think of you all the time,
you think of us we send make some there are
no child moments in your life.

What about your first time skating. Don't
forget we will be looking for you after
you visit us.

Yours & yours
Bob & Edna

Sept. 14, 1943

Dearest Mother,

Now that you are in Virginia with Alle aren't you glad you agreed to give up work and visit a while? We are glad that you did. We want you to have the time of your life on this trip. As I said before we want you here before you return home to settle down again. Come when you return from N.Y. and we will visit Yellowstone before they close for the winter. We will go to Salt Lake, Sun Valley, and any other place you desire. You must come for we won't be able to go home unless we got to Texas or Tenn from here for seven day furloughs is all that we are given us. Don't let this interfere with the trip to N.Y. though. We know you want to see both places. If you can come here we will show you the west just like Alle and Maxine are showing you the East. I know I should write you every day but I never stop long to catch a breath. My day begins at 6:30 a.m. I get up dress, make my bed, eat and go to work before 7:30. I work until 5:30. Eat supper, shave, bathe, and dress, shine my shoes and go to town to pick up our dates at night. We date six nights a week. We never get home before one. Sometimes we stay out until 3:00 it all depends what we do. We went to Idaho Falls (50 miles north) last Thursday-Bob-Theresa Ruth & I. We danced to Henry King's orchestra until 12:45. I was home in bed at three. We went on a picnic to Justic Park Sat. Night. It was three when we got home that night. We had T-bone steak-corn on the cob, Tomatoes, potatoes, Coca Cola. We roasted marshmallows then ate watermelon. When we return to [unreadable]. Helen is Ruth's cousin. She had a date too.

Just don't worry about us darling. We will take care of ourselves and think of you all the time. You think of Bessie and make sure there are no dull moments in your life.

Write us about your good times darling and don't forget we will be looking for you after you visit N.Y.

Love and Kisses

Bob and Brock

Ithaca New York.
Monday Morning

My darling boys.

I'm still having my worries about not hearing from you. I know it hasn't been so long but it seems like an awful long time to me. Guess tho you just didn't believe I was coming and waited till you heard from your to write. I started to wire you this morning but decided you might think me foolish or silly. I do hope I get an letter real soon. You don't send any more here for I'll be gone before they get here. Just be sure and have some waiting for me at Lynchburg.

This is truly a beautiful country - I enjoyed every mile of the trip here. Even the extra mile we made. We changed highway at Williamsport Pa. and after traveling 40 miles found that we took the wrong end and had to go back to Williamsport and start again - On top of that we had a flat away out from anywhere. We were lucky though the fifth car stopped and changed tire for us. We left Lynchburg at eleven thirty Sat morning and arrived here Sat four thirty yesterday morning. We found the girls and Del fine. Wish you could see Anna. She looks so much better and she looks better than we even run her. She weighs 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. and is a typical flapper. Wish you could hear ole fool Ann. Tell about our trip over.

We are going to New York. Will leave here Friday morning. And we have that afternoon and night and Sat morning there. Then we will visit Del's sister in New Jersey. And go back by Washington etc.

Your Mother is having a wonderful trip and
when we said it comes to the fact that I owe
it all to you - money and because you wanted
me to come so bad. You sent message
They want to get through quick and take me
right away so we stop and write more
later - I love you forever
Brother

Mid September 1943
Ithaca, New York
Monday Morning

My Darling boys,

I'm still having my worries about not hearing from you. I now it hasn't been so long but it seems like and awful on time to me. Guess tho you first didn't believe I was coming and waited till you heard from me to write. I started to wire you this morning but decided you might think me foolish or silly. I do hope I get a letter real soon. However don't send any more here for I'll be gone before they get here. Just be sure and have some waiting for me at Lynchburg.

This is truly a beautiful country. I enjoyed every mile of the trip here. Even the 80 extra miles we made. We changed highways at Williamsport, PA and after traveling 40 miles found out that we took the wrong end and had to go back to Wiilliamsport and start again. On top of that we had a flat away out from anywhere. We were lucky tho for the fifth car stopped and changed tires for us. We left Lynchburg at eleven thirty Sat. morning and arrived her at four thirty yesterday morning. We found the girls and Del fine. Wish you could see Jepa. Her eyes look so much better and she looks better than I've seen her. She weighs 154 lbs and is a typical flapper. Wish you could hear ole fool Alle tell about our trip over.

We are going to New York. Will leave here Friday morning and will have that afternoon and night and Sat. morning there. The we will visit Dell's sister in New Jersey and go back by Washington ect. Your mother is having a wonderful trip and when all's said it come to the fact that I owe it all to you. Money and because you wanted me to come so bad. You sweet rascals.

They want to get through and take me sightseeing so will stop and write more later.

I love you darlings

Mother

Sept. 18, 1943

Dearest Mother,

Your long letter from Virginia came yesterday. I enjoyed it very much for I know you are very happy there and will be the same the whole trip. Traveling is lots of fun especially when one is visiting friends along the way. I have seen a lot in traveling from one place to another and have enjoyed it very much.

I don't think Oda and Betty Jean should mind if you visit us here. After all they have years ahead of them for travel. There is no better time than the present for you to make this trip. But now that the weather is too cold for either of us to travel by train or bus it may be best that you wait until next summer. Too Yellow stone Park closes the fifteenth of next month. We would want to spend the week end there also.

you come. The latest news is we will be here
this winter. If so and we remain next summer
you and Bitty Jeanette may join us here if you
still think that's what you want.

We are glad you asked the Lord for me
what you to have every thing on this trip. If
you see any thing you want let it be yours -
if there is any thing you want to do do it.
Don't let any thing come between you and a good
friend. I know all the business doing every
thing they can to lead you around.

Give my love to all and thank them
for what they are doing for you. Some day
we can make that trip to gather

Love & Kisses

Bob & Carrie

Sept. 18, 1943

Dearest Mother,

Your long letter from Virginia came yesterday. I enjoyed it very much for I know you are very happy there and will be the same the whole trip. Traveling is lots of fun especially when one is visiting friends along the way. I have seen a lot in traveling from one place to another and have enjoyed it very much.

I don't think Ava and Bettye Jean should mind if you visit us here. After all they have years ahead of them for travel. There is no better time than the present for you to make this trip. But now that the weather is too cold for either of us to travel by train or bus it may be best that you wait until next summer too. Yellowstone Park closes for the season the fifteenth of next month. We would want to spend the weekend there when you come. The latest rumor is we will be here this winter. If so and we remain next summer you and Bette Jean may join us here if you still think that is what you want.

We are glad you cashed the bond for we want you to have everything on this trip. If you see anything you want let it be yours. If there is anything you want to do, do it. Don't let anything come between you and a good time. I know Alle and Maxine are doing everything they can to show you around.

Give my love to all and thank them for what they are doing for you. Some day we can make that trip together.

September 23, 1943

Dearest Father & Dick,

I am so sorry that my letters did not reach you when you expected them too. Of course it was no fault of mine I do know I wrote at least two letters to Langstone Farm (H.A). All goes well now - you are having a wonderful time, and we know - and don't think as to know that our Mother is away from work and busy and out on a tour of the East Coast with three of the most wonderful girls in the world. We want you to every thing that has ever been into your mind; if it takes six months to do so. Your letter from Virginia telling me to write in care of Maxine came yesterday. The one from New York telling us to write in care of Alice came to day. You seem to be traveling faster than your mail. I do hope you had several letters waiting for you when you returned. I know what letters mean to you. That's why I am going to write often beginning right now even though it will be a short one. Good night and thanks until to-morrow or next day. Love & Kisses God & Grace

September 23, 1943

Dearest Mother & Girls,

I am so sorry that my letters did not reach you when you expected them too. Of course it was no fault of mine. I know I wrote at least two letters to Laughma Lane (HA). All jokes aside now-you are having a wonderful time and we know and how it thrills us to know that our mother is away from work and worry and out on a tour of the East Coast with three of the most wonderful girls in the world. We want you to everything that has ever came into your mind; if it takes six months to do so.

Your letter from Virginia telling us to write in care of Maxine came yesterday. The one from New York telling us to write in car of Alle came today. You seem to be traveling faster than your mail. I do hope you had several letters waiting for you when you returned. I know what letters mean to you. That's why am going to write often beginning right now even though it will be a short one. Good night sweethearts until tomorrow or next day.

Love and kisses,

Bob and Brock

Mr. Basie Thornhill
306. Neb. Ave
Mo. Comb Miss



7/Sgt. James Robert Thornhill
539th Bomb Sq - A.A.F.
Pocatello
Idaho.

Jackson Miss
Oct. 25-43.

My dearest base:

How's my boy to night? I bet it's real cold there to night for it's feeling like winter here to night. I can see you walking around in the snow. But I'm also wondering what effect snow and ice will have on you driving home now. How do you drive in the snow, isn't it dangerous or do you have some thing on the wheel to keep it from slipping? Please be careful and don't take any chances.

Betty Jean came up Sat. night and stayed till the afternoon. We went to town and picked out her coat. It's a new shade of blue and very pretty and nice. The price is \$33.00 but Linda can get it at least which she should save a good bit. That seems an awful lot to pay for her a coat but the Coopers would be too cheap and look at it and say "I think she's about done with growing" and you have to go along. They might be a black jacket however so we'll have to see about it as the cost. They are about as much as it is the coat. Linda has been \$10.00 and the finishing going on her better than she's about all & could do for the jacket. Linda broke. I'm afraid I'm going to miss my boarding now.

I did hate for my baby to go home with out a going. If it wasn't for taking mamma back with me & Barbara, I would have gone with her. We hope we can't go in trouble & have you Tim wanting to get us home, got back last night and is writing and telling Linda, got back over to tell Linda, for some reason didn't want to say she's going to stay. However she's the main one to stay home if no longer isn't best if Hobson See make it possible for a

not to work so I can take the best of care of her
or what. I know Helen will do his part and do
but the others I don't know. I'm mighty anxious
to know what I'm going to do.

Edna took me to Vicksburg yesterday afternoon
number hundreds of people ask me about Vicksburg
Well I was on my trip and I was ashamed to
admit that I had never seen it so remarkable
so we so. Had no idea it would be so soon
Edna gave China, some L. go stamps and
etc, got her own to one and other things
(just we might need). Wish we had gone farther
for the National Park is too big to see all
in should in a short time. We go some
now. And here it is! The park is beautiful
and the town is old and interesting.

Are you ever you don't want me to stand you
+ Candy and nuts before now I'll bake our
first cake just as soon as the pecans dry
enough and am I going to fill them full.
We also have chickens in the locker so we don't
~~need~~ have them. I can hardly wait, and how
would they body we be feeling good. Boys
you don't know how bad I want to have her
+ both of us at once. Oh we are going to have
a mint day we must.

I enjoyed the Cadji letter a lot, so the Wells have
not interest in you. I'm sorry for the sun might
be on. I've tried Barbara's letter again
but crossing. She waited so long + first thing she
said - "Do they have any wife over there?" thought it
be it and if we get what we should from her we
will be a good and the -- especially you
think, no you. I'll be sure to
the Cadji body in a month It's
going to pay you won't be happy when they
get it I do like them.

Jackson Miss
Oct. 25-43

My Dearest Boys,

How's my boys tonight? I bet it's really cold there tonight for it's feeling like winter here tonight. I can see you walking around in the snow. But I'm also wondering what effect snow and ice will have on your driving home Xmas. How do you drive in the snow. Isn't it dangerous or do you have something on the wheels so keep it from slipping? Please be careful and don't take any chances.

Betty Jean came up Sat. Night and stayed till this afternoon. We went to town and picked out her coat. It's a new shade of blue and very pretty and nice. The price is \$33.00 but Lena can get it at cost which should save a good bit. That seems an awful lot to pay for her a coat but the cheaper ones are cheap and look it. And too I think she's about enough growing and can wear it a long time. Mamma got her a blackout flower to wear to dances and she was about as proud of it as the coat. I paid Lena \$10.00 and will finish paying her later. The ten was about all I could do for I'm just about broke. I'm afraid I'm going to miss my boarding house money.

Sure did hate for my baby to go home without me again. If it wasn't for taking Mamma back with me I certainly would have gone with her. Do hope we get to go in couple of days for I'm wanting to get back. Lena got back last night and is feeling real well I think so I'm hoping she will send us down soon. Mamma wants to stay with me and Hobson is thrilled pink over it, but Lena for some reason don't want to say she's going to stay. However I feel sure she means to stay this winter if no longer. Don't know if Hobson will make it possible for me not to work so I can take the best of care of her or what. I know Hobson will do his part and more but the others I don't know. I'm mighty anxious to know what I'm going to do.

Edna took us to Vicksburg yesterday afternoon. Numbers of people ask me about Vicksburg while I was on my trip and I was ashamed to admit that I had never seen it so resolved to do so. Had no idea it would be so soon. Slim gave Edna some C. gas stamps and Tal gave her money for gas and other things that we might need. Wish we had gone for the day for the National Park is too big to see as one should in a short time. Will go some time. How about it? The park is beautiful and the town is old and interesting.

Are you sure you don't want me to send you any candy and nuts before Xmas? I'll bake our fruit cakes just a soon as the pecans dry enough and am I going to fill them full. Will also have chickens in the locker so we won't have to dress them. I can hardly wait and how I hope everybody will be feeling good. Boys you can't know how bad I want to have hold of both of you at once. Oh, we are going to [unreadable] aren't we? We must.

I enjoyed Mrs. Cady's letters a lot. So the Wall's have lost interest in you. I'm sorry for they were mighty nice to you. I've owed Barbara a letter since before I left Magnolia. I've waited so long I don't know how to answer it. Do they have any nuts over there. Thought if they don't and if we get what we should from my trees we could

pick out some and send them – especially the Cady's. What you think. No negroes. I'll be seeing you again soon. Be careful darlings and don't let anything happen to you for we want to be happy Xmas. Kisses, Mother.

1943

Dearest Betty Jean,

Your theme letter came yesterday. We enjoyed it very much. You left us in doubt though you we don't know what grade was given or what others thought of it. I couldn't write an article like that in a million years. Speaking of school work do you make the same grades as you did last year. Something tells me you are getting more like your brothers every day, that is all out for a good time and let school work take care of itself. We want you to have a good time dear but at the same time we want you to make good in school.

Gra wrote that she brought home an $\$100$ coat for mother. Did she keep it if so what are the payments. Set us broad and we can send payment when sending note for car.

How are the mothers and the twin beds. I do hope they can be happy and satisfied all of the time. Be sure you do what you can to help.

Love & Kisses
Bob & Brock

1943

Dearest Bettye Jean,

Your theme letter came yesterday. We enjoyed it very much. You left us in doubt though for we don't know what grade was given or what mother thought of it. I couldn't write an article like that in a million years. Speaking of school work do you make the same grades as you did last year. Something tells me you are getting more like your brothers every day, that is all out for a good time and let school work take care of itself. We want you to have a good time but at the same time we want you to make good in school.

Ava wrote that she brought home a \$100 coat for mother. Did she keep it. If so what are the payments. Let us know and we can send payment when sending note for car.

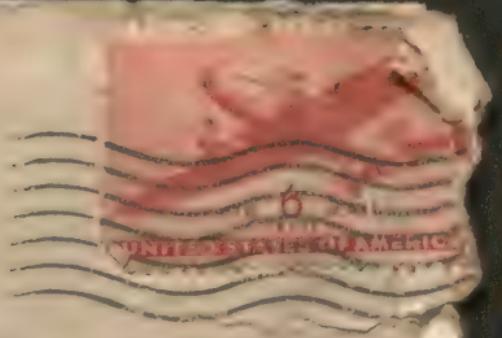
How are the mothers and the twin beds. I do hope they can be happy and satisfied all of the time. Be sure you do what you can to help.

Love and Kisses,

Bob and Brock

Mrs. Thompson
54 Main Street
Weston, Conn.

Air Mail



5/5gt, Exchange Bank, Weston,
53, P.O. Box 29, W. A. B.

Pocatello

Idaho.

McCormick Miss
Wed Night.

My dearest boy:

Your telegram came this morning and liked to have scared me to death. She said "Mam ma don't you like to get money?" I told her I did she said well why did you talk ugly about it? You said I don't like them. I'm afraid of it and all those things. I sure did hate to ask you for money now for I know you can easily use all you have left after paying your note. I'm going to Magnolia tomorrow to pay the note and I'm going to ask Uncle to set the note up a month and I feel sure he will do it for me. That will mean that you won't have to make a payment in Dec. and will have it for your furlough.

I hope you have heard about the new and on dependent allotment. All non-combat dependents will get allotments and more than at first. So just as soon as you can make applications and get mine started again. and don't forget to include Betty Jean. I will get \$50. Sue \$30 and Robert Brock \$20. Of course B.F. and I want get that much but few dollars more than we got before. Oh but I'm glad we can get it again. I feel sure we can get along nicely after we get lined up and every thing started. I'm telling you being broke is an awful feeling after being able to write Chuck for three years.

Mammies and I got our feeds up yesterday. Hobson bought them for me and my tongue was

She seems to be perfectly satisfied and I hope we can keep her that way.

B.M. your letter came to day telling of your three days hunting. Listen get every boy of chile you can to hunt home with you. Hobson is having a fine getting what he wants and you know how he loves to hunt. A number of friends have given him a lot so he says he can get by but don't care more. He and several men are duck hunting on the Miss River. The bag limit is 10 ducks and 3 geese a day and 20 ducks and six geese for one month. I hope he gets his bag limit. Will have things ready to go hunting with you now. I can hardly wait for the time to pass. If you are worried & do hope you come much more however we can see each other more often. Guess you won't trade any ideas when it will be - do you?

Betty Jean is still having fun going to the dance. She hasn't done well in school so she should and am sure it's due to too much play. Especially she is going to have to cut out some of it and go more dancing.

Sue has been awfully cross for last few days. We took her to Peoria yesterday and the doctor has a right bad condition. She had pulse in the kidney and kidney stone. Said he had never took one so many in 15 years. Hope she will be feeling better after daddy gets back. She has a tooth & can't eat while you are to home. She isn't very well & some water might help her out of trouble.

November 3, 1943
McComb, Miss
Wed Night

My Dearest Boys,

Your telegram came this morning and liked to have scared me to death. Sue said "Momo don't you like to get money?" I told her I did. She said why did you talk ugly about it? You said I don't like them. I'm afraid of it and all those things. I sure did hate to ask you for the money for I know you can easily use all you have left after paying your note. I'm going to Magnolia tomorrow to pay the note and I'm going to ask Steve to set the note up a month and I feel sure he will do it for me. That will mean that you won't have to make a payment in Dec. and will have it for your furlough.

Guess you have heard about the new law on dependent allotment. All non coms dependents will get allotments and more than at first. So just as soon as you can make applications and get mine started again and don't forget to include Betty Jean. Ava will get \$50, Sue \$30 and Robert Brock \$20. Of course B.J. and I won't get that much but few dollars more than we got before. My but I'm glad we can get it again. I feel sure we can get along nicely after we get lined up and everything started. I'm telling you being broke is an awful feeling after being able to write checks for three years.

Mamma and I got our beds up yesterday. Hobson bought them for us and my they are nice. She seems to be perfectly satisfied and I hope we can keep her that way.

Bob, your letter came today telling of your three days hunting. Listen, get every box of shells you can bring home with you. Hobson is having a time getting what he wants and you know how he loves to hunt. A number of friends have given him a box so he says he can get by but could use more. He and several men are duck hunting on the Miss. river. The bag limit is 10 ducks and 3 geese a day and 20 ducks and six geese for one hunt. I hope he gets his bag limit. He'll have things ready to go hunting with you Xmas. I can hardly wait for the time to pass. If you are moved I do hope you come much nearer home so we can see each other more often. Guess you don't have any idea where it will be do you?

Betty Jean is still having fun going to the dances. She didn't do as well in school as she should and I'm sure it's due to too much play. Expect she's going to have to cut out some of it and do more studying.

Sue has been awfully cross for last few days. Ava took her to Lucion's yesterday and he found her in right bad condition. She has pulse on her kidney's and kidney stones. Said he had never had one so young with kidney stones. Hope she will be feeling better before her daddy get's home. Bob she had an attack of same trouble while you were at home. I'll write again son. I love you, Mother

(sent camera today so you can make pictures of snow and bring home)

AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO

From 4073 Redwing
Jackson 31. Miss



VIA AIR MAIL

T/Sgt James P. Thornhill
539th Bomb Sq.

A A B

Pocatello
Idaho.

Sunday

My Dear Boys -

I havent forgotten you
but it seems so I know
so I am sending this note
until I can write a real
letter.

Ugh it is so cold, almost
freezing, but came after
such nice warm weather

Guess you are getting
snow and below freezing
hope you dont get snow
bound for instance about
Xmas time

? am going to church
twice a day & that keeps
me going.

Will write you soon
Hope you are well and
happy

From Aunt Hora

11-12-43

Friday, Nov 12, 1943

My Dear Boys,

I haven't forgotten you but it seems so I know, so I am sending this note until I can write a real letter.

Ugh, it is so cold. Almost freezing, but came after such nice warm weather.

Guess you are getting snow and below freezing. Hope you don't get snow bound, for instance about Xmas time.

I am going to church twice a day & that's keeping me going.

Will write you soon. Hope you are well and happy.

From Aunt Dora.

My darling in the moon & sea
How about little Freddie you are
white & less it's you good girl you
didn't take it over here like some
and so - anyway it was much nicer
while you were here - then sent you
to walk around now.

Maggie got her call for 30 Thanksgiving
giving day and were all there - then
it was changed to the day after and
were we happy! Now she is there and
will have a couple of weeks in S. America
then to school - look for a letter -

4530 - 17th Nov. 8. 1910 - In the house little Miss
she will be rather homesick a while I
suppose, but will find in 18 months!
She had a good and interesting gift while
here and got in a lot of flying & gauding,
dancing and all so she is starting to
a lot of work now.

Kathleen is going to come for me
during Christmas vacation. At present is
writing a theme on "Fair Rosamund" You
two want to add any comments to it?

When I neglect you I keep thinking
well they have a couple of nice girls
and the car and conditions are better
than the last time I was writing to
you - Sent some cookies and reading
material to your old island yesterday

grated strips upon the promotional
and best wishes to you Bob - hope it
comes soon - wish I had a supply
sgt over here to supply the things
we need - our work has doubled
since school began, the old station
wagon is on the go every day -

I'll cross my fingers for a certain
crew chief who to break the record -
am so happy your plane has had
such good care - speaks well for my
boy.

Do you remember Jean St Clair he was
crew chief and received his plane just
before going down under - was mighty
busy for a while there. Had a rather
blue letter from him this week -

Woman is fine - busy - very - His
address 42d Bomb Sq (H) 11th Bomb Gp (H)
APO 240 - Both together yet.

Harold and Alon Kurnet (United Airlines
Pilot) from my home were in the other
night. Harold has a hot plate few dishes
and is doing light house keeping at Hickam.
He has nearly 4 years which will mean
a trip home unless he goes down under -
just a maybe. Didn't he get glued to
the spot!

Since weather is a military secret
I can't tell you Harold still works in
the garden and is it beautiful. He did
not have to water to night because it was

not nice. You will have your
wedding. I'll take this.

I do hope Mother will not be
disappointed at Christmas she has
waited long enough. Majorie will have
4 Christmases away from home.

No, I don't think you will see
another 4 years in mind tho we
are beginning to see the results of
pretty tough times down under.
You know what my work was when
you were here - just play. The
schools are all full tilt on
helping me.

Well, you all three had better call
at Pahoa - and what's more I'm not
sure that I want to see you back
enough to have you go down there
again. Believe I'd rather wait and see
you all on your honey moons with
out any washing machine Charlie -

Your old island is begging for
reading material so I'm writing
more in the G.M. - have better
transportation again -

Slide down hill once for me but
that will be enough - I'd rather lie on
the lawn and look at the moon
over head. Anyway we all love you all
and do enjoy letters when you have
time! And love to the folks at home

Still - More -

Honolulu, Hawaii
December 1943*

My Darlings in the snow and ice,

How about a little Paradise for a while!! Aren't you glad that you didn't hate it over here like some did and do—anyway, it was much nicer while you were here—there isn't room to walk around now.

Marjorie got her call for 1:30 Thanksgiving day and were we blue – then it was changed to the day after and were we happy! Now she is there and will have a couple of weeks in L.A. and then to school – drop her a letter – 4530 17th NE, % Phi Mu House, Seattle, Washington. She will be rather homesick a while I suppose, but will finish in 18 months. She held a good and interesting job while here and got in a lot of Flying Squadron dancing and dates so she is ready for a lot of work now.

Katheryn is going to work for me during Christmas vacation. At present is writing a theme on "Fair Rosalind" – you two want to add and comments to it!

When I neglect you I keep thinking well they have a couple of nice girls and the car and conditions are better than the last time I was writing you – sent some cookies and reading material to your old island yesterday.

Congratulations upon the promotions – and best wishes to you Bob – hope it comes soon. Wish I had a supply Sgt over here to supply the things we need. Our work has doubled since school began, the old station wagon is on the go every day.

I'll cross my fingers for a certain crew chief's wish to break the record. Am so happy your plane has had such good care – speaks well for my boy.

Do you remember Jean St. Clair he was crew chief and received his plane just before going down under – was mighty busy for a wh8ile there. Had a rather blue letter from him this week. Norman is fine – busy-very. His address 42nd bomb Sq. (H) 11th Bomb Gp(H) APO 240 – both together yet.

Harold and Don Kemmet (United Airline Pilot) from my home were in the other night. Harold has a hot plate few dishes and is doing light housekeeping at Hickam. He has nearly 4 years which will mean a trip home unless he goes down under. Just a maybe. Didn't he get glued to the spot!

Since weather is a military secret I can't tell you. Harold still works in the garden and is it beautiful. He did not have to water tonight because it was not necessary. You may have your weather, I'll take this.

I do hope mother will not be disappointed Christmas she has waited long enough. Majorie will have 4 Christmases away from home.

No, I don't think you will see another 4 years in service tho we are beginning to see the rusults of pretty tough times down under. You know what my work was when you were here - just play. The schools are going full tilt on helping me.

Well, you all three had better call at Oahu and what's more I'm not sure that I want to see you bad enough to go down under again. Believe I'd rather wait and see you all on your honeymoons without any washing machine Charlie.

Your old island is begging for reading material so I'm rustling more in the AM. - have better transporation again.

Slide down hill once for me but that will be enough. I'd rather be on the lawn and look at the moon overhead. Anyway we all love you all and do enjoy letters when you have time. And love to the folks at home.

Still - Mom

*This letter is not dated, but refers to Marjorie getting called to go somewhere the day after Thanksgiving, and she has already left. In addition, the letter tells that her daughter Katheryn is going to work for her during Christmas vacation. Since she greets them as her darlings in the snow and ice, they must be in Salt Lake City or Pocatello, ID for those are their only duty stations that would be frigid in early December.